

a smaller colonial State runs from a more powerful and larger neighbour arises from quarrels that may exist between the mother country and the foreign State. I say that is a total fallacy. Suppose these Provinces separated from this country—suppose they were erected into a monarchy, a republic, or any other form of Government. Are there not motives that might lead a stronger neighbour to pick a quarrel with that smaller State with a view to its annexation? (Hear, hear.) Is there nothing like territorial ambition pervading the policy of great military States? The example of the world should teach us that as far as the danger of invasion and annexation is concerned, that danger would be increased to Canada by a separation from Great Britain, and when she is deprived of the protection that the military power and resources of this country may afford. (Cheers.)”

The question of defence, in my view, rests to a large extent, upon the spirit of those who are called upon to defend the country. If you elevate the country and its institutions, the people will be prepared to defend it with greater spirit. We have seen in history the effect of rendering a people dissatisfied with the country in which they lived. One of the great grievances of the people of Ireland, is that they have not had since the Union with England control of their own affairs—that they have not sufficient representation in the British Parliament to give them their due influence; and see what an exodus there is of her people. The last census of the United States returns 1,611,304, of the citizens of the Union as born in Ireland, where the whole population is only five and three quarter millions, while the same returns give only 431,692 persons born in England, where the population is twenty millions.

If then you desire to have the hearty co-operation of our people in the defence of this country, you should not deprive them of the control which they now exercise over the constitution and institutions of their country. Neither must you make them feel that they are pressed down by taxes. If you impose upon them burthens beyond what they consider just—and over which they can exercise no control—then the spirit to defend their country vanishes. Lord Bacon reminds us that the blessing given to Judah and Issachar are never found combined in the same individual, nor in the same people. Judah was to have the spirit of the lion—to place his hand upon his enemy's neck.

But Issachar was to bow himself to pay tribute—to become like “the Ass brouching between two burdens.” And no matter how spirited a people are, whenever these burdens are placed upon them they will change. Did the hon. Pro. Sec. suppose what he made this Quebec bargain, that the men around these benches are the Representatives of the lineal descendants of Issachar? That we are such consummate asses, as to bow down and

allow him to fix and saddle upon us forever the ass's burthen. This people have shown that they have a spirit to defend their country and its interests. Little Nova Scotia has given several names to history, and we have erected a monument to the memory of some of those who have thus shown themselves worthy a noble ancestry. Every time I pass that monument I feel my step grow firmer and prouder with the thought, that the spirit which influenced these men still lives in the bosoms of the people of Nova Scotia. That it animates the stalwart militia men of this Province, “whose arms were moulded in their mothers' wombs, to drive the invader from our soil;” but take away from these the control of their representative institutions, and impose upon them such burthens as I believe you are going to place upon them by this Confederation, and you drive out that spirit, and they will become as useless for defence, as a battalion of dried mummies from the catacombs of Egypt.

The Provincial Secretary tells us that Confederation will give us influence and position. He asks where was Nova Scotia when the Reciprocity Treaty was passed. Was not Nova Scotia present in her Legislature at its ratification? But I ask where will Nova Scotia be, when the whole power is placed in the hands of Canadians, to barter away her interests whenever it may suit them. One of the conditions most prized by the American people in effecting that treaty, is the right to our fisheries. Now with Canada's anxiety for the continuance of that treaty, what regard will she have for the particular interests of Nova Scotia when, as I have already shown you, we shall be powerless at Ottawa, so far as our representation is concerned. Again he asks where was New Brunswick, when a slice was cut off her, and given to Maine? I reply she was just in the position that Nova Scotia was, when a piece was taken from her territory and handed over to New Brunswick; in the hands of those who did not regard her interests. There is, however, this difference—the “slice” we lost went to a sister colony, which is some satisfaction, but not equal to what I have, no doubt the Prov. Secy. felt, in getting rid of a number of voters of the wrong political stripe.

The hon. gentleman wants to know who is not humiliated when he finds that Canada is only mentioned in the debates concerning these Provinces, in the British Parliament. I rather take it as a compliment, that Canada has alone been mentioned. The government of England have had no cause of complaint against Nova Scotia, on the ground of unwillingness to make preparation for her defence, but she had a reason for dissatisfaction with Canada. We have also heard of the Grand Trunk Railway, and of the transactions connected with it, which have given Canada a reputation, I am glad to say, Nova Scotia does not possess. Notoriety is not necessarily