

ing Japanese children attending such schools, it is likely enough that this same power might be disposed to question the wisdom of our immigration laws. Now, Japan, which was very little known fifty years ago, has an already powerful fleet.

Only a few days ago, British diplomacy, seconded by the prestige of the British navy, secured for us from the government of Uruguay an amount of \$50,000 as compensation for the illegal seizure of some of our fishing boats along the coasts of that country.

In many cases a navy cannot be put to any use, and so much the better. It then has indirectly its usefulness in accordance with that rule, which though objectionable in practice, has some strong points in its favour: 'Si vis pacem, para bellum.'

In his speech of February 3rd, the hon. member for Jacques Cartier recalled an incident of those troublous times of 1837: a British officer present at the trial before court martial of a patriot took pleasure in sketching the prisoner as he would appear on the gallows. Now, there is not a member of this House, there is not a Canadian, whether of English or French lineage, but will repudiate such cruelty, such cynical insult to misfortune. The very perpetrator of such an offence must have been ashamed of himself as soon as the first period of excitement was over. On the other hand, I fail to see what argument the member for Jacques-Cartier will draw from this incident either in favour or in condemnation of the government's proposal. Excesses of that kind cannot be charged against our forerunners, who were the victims and not the perpetrators of such deeds.

During that same debate of February 3rd, the hon. member for North Toronto depicted the former prime minister of Quebec, the late Honoré Mercier, under rather unfavourable colours. He represented him as anti-British, and in so doing he was speaking of a man of whom he had a very imperfect knowledge. Mercier, who had a free hand in Quebec about 1888, was well disposed towards Ontario. We all remember how such disposition materialized in 1890, when unfortunately the university of Toronto was consumed by fire. I refer to this fact, not that it has a great meaning in itself, but as showing what were the real feelings of the man and how uncalled for are the aspersions cast on his memory by the member for North Toronto on February 10. If that hon. member only took the pains of ascertaining the facts in regard to Quebec's representative men, he would have to modify a good many of his utterances.

Now, as to those who would be disposed to contribute cash or the equivalent of two Dreadnoughts.

Mr. PAQUET. (Translation). Will the hon. member allow me to ask a question?

Mr. BEAUPARLANT. Certainly.

Mr. PAQUET. (Translation). The hon. member for St. Hyacinthe asserts his willingness to defend Canada on land and on sea, but will he go so far as to say that he approves of the idea of our taking part, in case of emergency, as stated in clause 18 of the Bill, in all imperial warfare?

Mr. BEAUPARLANT. (Translation). If the hon. member will take patience, he will see in the latter part of my remarks what position I take. I propose voting for the Bill and clause 18, subject to amendments which may be made in committee.

Mr. PAQUET. (Translation). Then you are in favour of the proposal of Canada participating in imperial wars?

Mr. BEAUPARLANT. (Translation). In so far as I am concerned, I do not wish to be debarred from the privilege of entering into an alliance with whomsoever I may deem it useful to make such an alliance in my country's interests. As a French Canadian I have just as much the right to enter into an alliance with England whenever I believe it in the interest of Canada, in the same way that the French people in France have themselves formed an alliance with England previous to the Crimean war in 1854. I take just as much pride in my French Canadian ancestry as the hon. member for l'Islet may take; and it is this very desire of doing my duty as such which enjoins me to take all means possible of promoting the interests of Canada according to circumstances, under the control and responsibility towards the representatives of the Canadian people of the Minister of Marine of Canada. I would not be doing my duty as a French Canadian, by laying down as a principle never to enter into such alliance or other, under any circumstances, even though should that alliance be useful to us.

Now, those who are willing to contribute purely and simply, forthwith and unconditionally \$25,000,000, or any other amount, or who, in other words, would be disposed to hand over the whole outfit to be controlled exclusively by the home authorities, do not appear to realize that differences may arise between the mother country and the colonies, or else should such differences arise, they would allow the matter to be settled at the sweet will of the adverse party. Now, that is not at all in accordance with the Anglo-Saxon's love of liberty, or desire of upholding his rights, nor with his legitimate craving for managing his own affairs.

Differences of that nature do not arise solely between foreign nations. The Spanish colonies of South America, the peoples