

has been lessened in comparison with that of other powers. The burden is becoming so heavy that Great Britain is finding it difficult to do much more than to provide for the security of the British Isles. To Canada and the other Dominions it is essential that the naval strength of the Empire should be maintained in the whole of the oceans. It follows that Canada must have an intelligible object in keeping the Empire-navy strong, especially in those parts of the world remote from the British Isles. It is to that end that Mr. Borden and the Government of which he is the leader proposed to build three Dreadnoughts to be available for the world-service of the Empire.

DOES CANADA OWE GREAT BRITAIN NOTHING?

One argument is heard at times. It is that Canada owes Great Britain no gratitude for protection in the past. Sir Richard Cartwright expressed this very forcibly on one occasion, and Liberal speakers from time to time have echoed his words. It is an argument which will revolt most Canadians, but a few specific facts may be mentioned, as bearing on this question of military defence alone, apart from the generosity with which the Mother Country extended to Canada the blessings of civil and religious liberty, granted self-government, gave financial assistance and otherwise aided the country in its earlier days.

BRITISH MILITARY PROTECTION.

At the time of the War of 1812, Great Britain was hard pressed in the great war with Napoleon. She had an army in Spain, another army in the Mediterranean, in pursuance of the war with France; she had a third army in India, and a fourth in the West Indies. Yet from 1803 onwards, as the quarrel with the United States deepened, Great Britain increased her garrison in British North America (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the two Canadas), following the principle of keeping on foot a garrison of regular troops equal in number to the whole regular army of the United States. When the war broke out the Mother Country paid all expenses of defending the country. Of the troops which defended the country about half up to 1814, and by far the greater number after the summer of that year, came from across the ocean.

BRITISH EXPENDITURE ON OUR PUBLIC WORKS.

After the conclusion of the war and until after 1860 Great Britain maintained a powerful garrison in British North Amer-