That the Dominions have the right, absolute and indisputable, to declare themselves independent whenever they will, he does not even dream of putting in doubt. More than once that principle is laid down in the book as an axiom in law. In fact, nobody, in England, would think of raising a doubt to the contrary.

The right of self-government is inherent in the quality of British subject. In fact, it is the very essence of British citizenship. As early as the seventeenth century, "so firmly established in the "traditions of English society was representative government that "Englishmen carried it with them to distant parts of the world, and "expected the king to recognize it when they settled there. It was "established *as a matter of course* in America when Englishmen "settled there in the time of James I" (p. 21). "The effect of the "American secession on the attitude adopted by the British govern-"ment to its younger colonies was profound. That Englishmen "carried with them to new countries their native rights of self-"government had been recognized." (p. 39)

To state that responsible government was "*instituted*" in Canada by Great Britain is inaccurate (p. 42). For the colonials as well as for the Englishmen, "self-government is a question not of "privilege but rather of obligation. It is duty, not interest, which "impels men to freedom..." (p. 124).

Principles of self-government

To withdraw from the king the "authority" to collect taxes "from the individual taxpayers," and substitute thereto the authority "of the nation as expressed through Parliament", was the first result, and has become the basic principle of representative government. (p. 14.)

In England, that principle has been acknowledged and applied for centuries. It was finally settled by the Revolution of 1646. The object — and the outcome — of the War of Independence, in America, was not to reopen the question of the division of authority between the King and Parliament, but simply to apportion the measure of authority to be exercised, in matters of taxation, by the Imperial parliament and the colonial legislatures.

In 1859, Canada asserted her absolute right to modify at her own leisure the basis of internal taxation, and even to tax *ad libitum* goods imported from the United Kingdom. On that occa-