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out questioning or considering their nationality. The sole difference in opinion lies in the questions of tariffs and customs duties. Sweep away these artificial cobwebs, and the two people would be one within a few years. I say they would be one, and so they would be but for a seemingly slight divergence of opinion—the northern portion worshipping a crossed flag called the Union Jack, while the southern portion falls down with the same devotion before another flag called the Stars and Stripes. Each flag is dear to its people, and represents, in our opinion, all that is glorious, free and progressive upon this planet on which we live. Once, long ago—thank God, long ago!—those flags stood opposed in deadly antagonism, and hatred ensued. We have seen them entwined here and elsewhere to the delight of all who were wise, thoughtful and discriminating of either people. Long may our friendship last! But though that is my most earnest prayer, I am bound by the love I bear to this country of my adoption to ensure myself, and this Canada of which I am an humble citizen, against any wild and unexpected attack from those who are now our nearest and dearest friends.

Canada, in case of attack upon her on the part of the United States, would have to put forward her fullest strength until Great Britain and the sister colonies pushed their shields between the unequal combatants, and lifted their spears to join the war. I say that Canada would have to put forward her fullest strength, and that means the whole manhood of her warlike race. No half measures would do. The numbers which the United States could put into the field, backed by a courage and skill which is unsurpassed by any other nation, would sweep over the plains, and could only be checked by natural barriers which would give our outnumbered citizens a chance to stem the tide.

What could Canada do in the way of military defence? Her best and only protection against an unlikely and improbable, but still a possible attack, would be universal military service. With a population of over 5,000,000, she could doubtless at a stretch put 350,000 armed men into the field; but as her people are scattered over enormous areas, it may be better to count upon 200,000, or one-seventeenth of her

population as a possible maximum. Canada possesses a very great advantage in military strength over the countries of Europe. Her sons are hardy in constitution, accustomed to live in the open air, able to turn their hands to many kinds of work, to use rifle or gun, to ride and manage horses—all this to an extent that is unusual in older countries. Robust in body, ready of resource, they are a material from which can be formed an exceptionally fine body of fighting men, who on their own ground would man for man be impossible to beat, by even the best disciplined troops. Their principal requirement is discipline, an artificial product which would be readily acquired by good organization and a certain amount of drill.

It would require no driving, or very little, to get the martial (for it is martial) male population of Canada to adopt a universal military organization. A tax upon all who do not fire a certain number of rounds at rifle practice, and thus prove themselves efficient to defend the country, would do much, or else an exemption from some general tax for those who do attend. Again, if the law states that a man should be a military efficient in order to defend his country, it would be reasonable to allow the franchise to those only who have acquired a certificate of military efficiency. Once the principle was established that universal military service was the law of the land, there would be little difficulty in carrying the principle into effect.

The method of carrying out the defence of our frontier is a different matter, and to be treated separately.

V.

THE DEFENCE OF CANADA.

If there is one portion of the British Empire Beyond the Seas which requires to be prepared for war, it is the Dominion of Canada. The Australian Commonwealth and New Zealand are so far away from any possible dangerous enemy, that the adventure of an attack against them carries with it too many hazards to be undertaken unless the British fleet has first been destroyed. A combination of Powers which gave a temporary supremacy on the seas to our enemies would not suffice to justify the despatch of an invading host against these distant British