

ing our credit and reputation abroad,—while it proposes to effect all this at no greater cost either to mother country or to colony than the distribution of a few thousand acres of waste territory, which too, may be easily managed in such a manner as to contribute to the strength and improvement of the Province which bestows them,—ought to obtain at any rate a fair and impartial hearing.

So far as Great Britain is concerned unless the terrible disasters of the preceding century which cost her the empire of half a continent and all but reduced her to the rank of a second rate power; besides raising up for her a formidable rival in a state which ought to be her nearest and dearest ally,—unless these lessons have been entirely thrown away, any scheme which can tend to bind her colonies to herself ought to be eagerly sought after and welcomed. While, on our side, the advantages we would derive from such a project, though not so immediately obvious, are still great enough to justify strenuous exertions to secure them, for not only would such a contingent do more than aught else we could devise to arouse the minds of Englishmen from the torpid apathy with which the vast majority of them habitually regard their transatlantic possessions, but it would also tend powerfully to re-establish the credit of the country at home which some late proceedings of ours have damaged more than most of us would care to own; and, last, and in the mind of every true Canadian most important service of all, it would contribute most effectually to excite amongst us that healthy and generous national feeling, which is the best if not the only guarantee for true patriotism, while by the examples of heroism which war, whatever be its evils, never fails to bring to light, it might do much to correct the sordid spirit so apt to prevail among a perfectly peaceful community. And here I shall take leave to mention a circumstance of which your Excellency is doubtless aware, but which is not, I think, generally known, and that is that for several years previous to the American revolution there existed in the British army a regiment now known as the 60th Rifles,