

millions then under a debt of eighty millions, then under a debt of a hundred and forty millions, then under a debt of two hundred and forty millions, and lastly under a debt of two hundred and forty millions, were beyond all doubt under a two-fold mistake. They greatly overrated the pressure of the burden; they greatly underrated the strength by which the burden was to be borne."

To the next extract I would call your special attention. The *thoughts* it suggests to Rulers and Ruled, cannot be too deeply weighed.

"If it be true that whatever gives to intelligence an advantage over brute force and to poverty an advantage over dishonesty, has a tendency to promote the happiness and virtue of our race, it can scarcely be denied that, in the largest view, the effect of this system has been salutary. The strength which is derived from the confidence of capitalists, a despot never can possess. That strength—and it is a strength which has decided the fate of more than one great conflict—flies, by the law of nature, from barbarism and fraud, from tyranny and anarchy, to follow civilization and virtue, liberty and order."

The inference we draw from this valuable testimony, is applicable, I think you will agree, to our present position as residents of British Columbia. It is clear that public and private enterprise and improvement, when supported and supported by a liberal and responsible Government, will progress with safety and rapidity, more than can possibly be the case under an absolute ruler.

England has become what she is, by the channels which we seek to open here. If she has risen to such a pitch of prosperity and credit, a gold producing Colony like British Columbia, judging from all the antecedents of Australia, New Zealand, and California, has everything in its favor, to induce her to emulate her noble parent's glory, by walking in her steps to the best of her ability.

But now let us bring matters to the point. We are Bankrupt! We want Money! We want Credit! Perhaps an official cheerfully replies; "The income of British Columbia will rise to £50,000 per annum." This, no doubt, looks very promising—the sweet little image to be placed on the chimney piece of those who regard it from a pleasant point of view. The stern reality stares British Columbians in the face—it is the result of vigorous screwing! The pile looks pleasing enough when accumulated, it matters not how or where; but the pile is destined to be cut up in a hundred *different* and *requisite and lawful* ways, before it is expended on opening out rivers, roads and trails,

Fellow Countrymen: There is no use understating this matter; we keep it before us—we demand constitutional rights, but we remember how much there is to be done out of the revenue, consequent on an influx of population. Every rational person will be anxious to see "*meum and tuum*," carried out between the Government on the one hand, and the trader, the miner, and the smuggler on the other, and this, though positively necessary, and in the end advantageous to all, is only to be gained by enlarged expenditure.

Again we come to the point. WHAT IS TO BE DONE? The Government can only command a limited revenue, unless it resorts to injustice and oppression. The Colony wants Money, and it wants Credit.