

cashire subscriptions are but the first-fruits, rudely shaken by speculative politicians, or perilled by such taunts and dissensions as have been of late too rife in England?

Talk of defending the Colonies,—I hope to live to see the day when the outlying Provinces of the Empire will as freely send their contingents for the defence of these Islands, as they have this year sent their treasures to your Crystal Palace and their cheerful contributions to your distressed manufacturing towns. The anti-colonial feeling has been assumed to be strongest among those who, in this country, are known as the Manchester School of Politicians. If this be so, and I do not assert that it is, then what a pregnant answer may be drawn from the noble manifestations of national feeling, as contradistinguished from mere local obligation, by which our country's annals have been illustrated within a month.

When Lancashire is invaded by the Republicans, who, at a distance of three thousand miles have power to stop their looms and close their factories, when gaunt famine stalks through her streets, when hunger makes wan faces and weak frames which pestilence threatens to devour, does all England fold its arms and say to the Lancastrians, defend yourselves, protect yourselves, feed yourselves? Does Scotland or Ireland say this? Do the outlying Provinces say so? No! Thanks be to Almighty God that this has been nowhere said. The whole Empire has rushed to the relief of Lancashire, and that noble Principality is saved. With such an example before him will any Manchester Man or any other Englishman say to three hundred and fifty thousand Nova Scotians or New Brunswickers, or even to three millions of Canadians, defend yourselves against twenty millions of Republicans, whenever our diplomacy, over which you have had no control, fails to avert a war. No! this will never be said, until the Britons of the present hour are as abject as those whose "groans" for more Roman soldiers provoke our laughter in the pages of ancient history. I grant you that all England has assumed that Lancashire should help herself; and I at once concede that, to the full extent of their ability, any of the Provinces that have or are likely to become the seat of war, should, to the utmost extent of their means, provide for their own defence.

I shall, by and bye, show that whatever may have been done in other parts of the Empire, the British Americans have never flinched from the performance of this duty; but before touching this branch of the subject let me correct a very prevalent error that seems to prevail in this country, that it is the interest of North America that binds her to England. This is a popular error, and may mislead a good many people if it is not corrected.

Suppose that your Scottish border was fifteen hundred miles long, and that Scotland contained thirty millions of people, with a powerful army and navy, and the second mercantile marine in the world. Suppose British America to contain your population and England ours, would you not, under such a condition of your relations, laugh at any body who told you that it was your interest to adhere to us, at the