

which he was deprived by means of that criminal act. I do not propose to dwell further on that subject, but it did seem to me that, as a psychological study, the remarks of the hon. member were of great interest.

Now, my hon. friend from Queens-Sunbury (Mr. H. H. McLean) spoke very eloquently the other evening as to the defence of the ports of this Dominion which can be so well provided for by the navy contemplated by the government, and I shall not repeat what that hon. gentleman has said. He pointed out that we will have a naval college, modelled on the lines of the military college at Kingston, in which young Canadians who wish to join the navy will receive their training, and if we are to judge by the success which has attended the Royal Military College at Kingston, then, hon. gentlemen on both sides will agree with me that we will have a splendid class of young men turned out from that naval college. It takes a good deal of time to train men for the naval service. I was told by Admiral Kingsmill some time ago that the imperial naval regulations are to be adopted in the Canadian navy, and under these regulations, officers or seamen in order to become thoroughly proficient must commence about the age of fourteen years and continuously work at their profession for at least five or six years so that they may become thoroughly drilled and qualified for the performance of their duties. We cannot make good gunners and good men-of-wars-men in a brief period, because long and intelligent service is necessary to qualify them. In the course of five or six years, we will have a number of young men who will be well fitted to take any position in the British navy which their age will permit of, and of course as they grow older they will become better qualified and more efficient. I believe that for the future navy of Canada, under this system, we shall have a class of officers of whom we will have every reason to be proud. I say that, because it is my opinion that we have in Canada the best young men on the face of the earth, and consequently I expect splendid returns from the young Canadians who will engage in that service. I hope that the imperial regulations will be adopted and carefully carried out, because I believe that work which is worth doing at all is worth doing thoroughly. It would appear to me that the proposal of the government is a wise one and that the amendment of the leader of the opposition simply amounts to a scheme to build the superstructure of a navy before the foundations are laid. In the old sailing days when you got good sailors on board your ship you had all that was necessary, and, we have as fine a class of sailors on the shores of the maritime provinces

as are to be found in the world. But, the sea-faring men of the maritime provinces, excellent as they are, would be, without training of little more use than landmen on board a modern man of war; they would certainly have the advantage that they would not be sea-sick, but that is about all. We heard during this debate a good deal of talk about the command of the sea, and we have had many learned references from history. The leader of the opposition during the opening of his speech quoted that eminent authority Captain Mahan as having said that at Trafalgar it was not Villeneuve, but Napoleon that was defeated. It is a good many years since I read the work of Captain Mahan, but I have a distinct recollection of the views expressed by him, and I will say that if in the public schools of this country the children were trained to have their thinking powers as well as their memory cultivated it would be a very good thing, and they could learn for themselves the lessons taught by Captain Mahan. I do not wish to be considered pedantic, but I may be pardoned for referring to two of the examples of effective sea-power as given by Captain Mahan. He cites from ancient history the second Punic war, and he points out that the Carthaginians, though a sea-faring race, owing to dissensions and factions at home, and possibly owing to a large extent to jealousy of the great family of Barca allowed the command of the sea to slip from them and to be captured by the Romans. The Carthaginians although under the command of a man who was probably the greatest military genius of history were not able to succeed. Their commander could not get supplies or reinforcements by sea and having to go by land through a hostile territory, the fate of the Carthaginians' army was sealed. The reason of their defeat was that the Carthaginian forces were in a hostile country, harassed by a hostile people, through which they could not get their supplies and reinforcements to the sea. But that does not apply to the present case at all.

The next example which is referred to is that of the British army in Spain during the Peninsular war, but in that case the British held command of the sea and they were always able to pour in supplies and reinforcements. That also was a different case from the present. It is true the British were in a foreign country, but they were in a friendly country and in addition to that they had command of the sea. That is a case different altogether from the position in which the Carthaginians found themselves, but it is more nearly parallel to the conditions which would confront us at the present day were Great Britain to be engaged in war. And, Sir, if Great Britain should be forced to war I have not very