

partnership with her Sister Dominions and the United Kingdom in matters of defence.

We could, I submit, dismiss without further discussion the first proposition, Imperial Federation. And also dismiss the 2nd and 3rd as undesirable. Without any discussion as to the 4th suggested destiny, we could probably embrace the 5th, remain as we are, seek extended power and in the meantime increase the practical Imperialism, already practised in Canada, by placing on the free list, if necessary, goods imported from Britain and if I might be permitted to suggest that Britain could reciprocate, not by giving us a preference in her markets, but by encouraging British capital to be invested in the British Dominions, by remitting the income tax on all income derived from the investment of money in British territory, thereby fostering and promoting the development of the Dominions which are an ever increasing power to the Empire.

What part is Canada going to take in the matter of defence?

If she is going to do anything, is it not about time that some definite policy was adopted. Let that policy be the policy adopted by Australia and New Zealand. And commence if necessary by ordering forthwith two Super Dreadnoughts with the much discussed thirty-five million dollars, and at the same time offer a bonus of five millions (or such sum as may be necessary) for British firms to establish first-class ship building plants on the Atlantic and Pacific; assure such firms that on completion of the plants an order would be given for a complete fleet unit for each coast, which, with the two premier ships would be at least a start toward defending the outposts of Empire and in a practical way assisting to maintain supremacy, thus relieving the Mother Country and enabling her to concentrate her full energy in home waters.

In a few short years Canada would have a fleet on each Coast, a new body of artizans domiciled in our midst, and naturally the establishing of other new industries necessary in ship building, giving employment to our people and thereby fostering a National Canadian patriotism essential to the life of the nation and as a co-partner in the Empire.

As the Marquis of Lorne said on leaving Canada, "You are not the subjects, but the allies of a great Country, the Country that gave you birth."

I agree with Lord Grey, when he said:

"The British Empire was the most potent instrument ever conceived by man for diffusing the blessing of Law and Order, Freedom and Duty, Service and Mercy, throughout the world."

What is it that gives to England her commanding position? Why is it, that fleets from every Nation, from every quarter of the Globe, come to her Ports? That the products of countless regions are subject to her industry, and that the manufactures which the industry of her people complete, are carried to the farthest corners of the Globe?

What is it that gives to her this privileged position?

It is, that the Flag floats over regions far vaster than her own and that upon the Dominions of her Sovereign, the Sun never sets.