

defended, in olden wars, and where the present population, which can turn out 500,000 fighting men, could easily hold its own until succored from without.

These men, when the time comes, will do their duty to their country and to their children, but to be sure that they are in the right line of duty ; that the sacrifices they are willing to make will not be made in vain ; that success will have an object and produce fruits, these men expect, and have a right to expect, an out-spoken unqualified response, coming from the heart of England—"in the hour of danger succor will come."

The discussion which is taking place in the Old Country is, from our point of view, so general, so *œcumenical*, as to create some confusion. The Colonies of England, scattered the wide world over, presenting every imaginable variety of climate, of geographical situation, and of physical condition, containing an aggregate of 7,500,000 inhabitants, with but one common bond of cohesion, a common language, are dealt with *in globo*, in the popular parlance of the day. The same Procrustean argument is applied to Canada and to the Falkland Islands, to the Cape of Good Hope and to Australia, and thus it runs : "It is time that these countries should relieve us from further cost and responsibility. It is time that they should provide for themselves. It is time that, being independent, they should act for themselves, in peace and in war, for us or against us, as they may think best. Come what may, we shall continue to supply them with cutlery from Sheffield and dry goods from Manchester."

How far this argument may apply to Colonies in the Indian Ocean, or the Southern Pacific, it is not intended to discuss. It is our object and our duty to show that it is fallacious so far as it relates to Canada.

The Dominion of Canada enjoys under its present Constitution all the independence it desires. The voice of its people,