

they might very naturally attribute to that system results which had really been obtained despite of it, and which were truly attributable to the vast resources of the American continent and the wonderful energy and ability of its people. In referring to the second point he had mentioned at the outset, namely, the cost of the colonies, he said that in the old times, when the colonies were governed from Downing-street, they were a constant source of vexation and expense to this country. More particularly would this apply to Canada. The result of that old system was expensive to England and distasteful to the colonists. When Earl Russell was Colonial Secretary in 1846, the question of responsible or self-government was conceded to the important colonies. The result had been most satisfactory, and there had been no serious dispute since between Canada and this country, and the same might be said of all the North American colonies. Except for Imperial purposes, there had not—till the American war broke out—been the necessity for maintaining a single soldier in Canada. Although troops were sent out, they were never wanted for the purpose of preserving peace and order in the colony. That had been always done, and would always be done, by the ordinary Government. In times of peace, therefore, there was no necessity for military expenditure, except indeed for occupying the important fortresses which existed. The whole of the expenses of the Civil Government were borne on the Canadian budget. There might be, and he thought there were, one or two small sums still which the English Government bore—such as the expenses, under agreements with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, of one or two Bishops of the country and one or two Indian treaties, but the sums were very small indeed, and were such as the Imperial Government had not thought could be applied for to the colony. The expenses of the Governor-General's salary, his secretary, and the whole staff were borne on the Canadian estimates. It might be well to state what Canada did on the breaking out of the American war, when in a state of uncertainty what Great Britain would do. No application whatever, up to the time he left the Government, had been made by the Colonial Government for a single soldier to be sent out, but they did ask the Imperial Government to send out and store in Quebec a large quantity of those arms which were stored in Woolwich. That was three months before the *Trent* difficulty occurred; and that was the only application that had been made, except it had been very recently. What they desired was to have arms in the country, to be able to supply them to the militia for the defence of the colony. When the *Trent* difficulty arose, it became the duty of the Imperial Government—and it nobly performed