

thought, and a very large number of people in this country think, and I myself think, that Canada can render very much more substantial aid to the mother country in a different way. We are now a growing and prosperous country. Long before the termination of the present century Canada will probably have a population of over 50,000,000, from 50,000,000 to 75,000,000, an intelligent, self-reliant population, such as will not be excelled on the face of the globe. It will at that time be the strength of the empire. The United Kingdom cannot grow very much more in population. The area is limited, and the population now is somewhat crowded. It is not within the range of probability, therefore, that a very large increase will be made to the population of the islands. It is most important that there should be some outlying colony that can stand by the mother country and sustain the integrity of the empire in the years to come, and that country will be Canada. I believe that feeling of warmth and sympathy with England in her trials will be much more earnest, much more lively if England relies upon Canada to come to her aid when she actually needs it. She has had an illustration of what Canada can do in the recent struggle in South Africa. In the Crimean war, if my recollection serves me well, we gave a contribution. It was a bagatelle. I think it was not more than £10,000 sterling. It did not count for very much. But the men that we sent to South Africa did count for a great deal. We know that it was the Canadian volunteers at Paardeberg who wiped out the stain of Majuba Hill, and on one or two other occasions the Canadian contingents stood manfully together when the enemy were kept at bay. It need not be supposed that we are merely praising our own, because it is universally conceded that no finer body of men sailed for South Africa than the contingents that we sent from Canada. They have left a name for themselves that will long be remembered and Canada will in the future, should the interests of the empire require it, be prepared to do all that can be expected or all that can be asked from her, and in that way we can serve the empire infinitely better than by a money payment. I therefore think that the praise given by my hon. friend to the premier for standing to his

Hon. Mr. SCOTT.

own views in that conference is merited. My hon. friend opposite did not agree in that view, but I think a very large majority of our people will entirely sustain the attitude taken by Sir Wilfrid on that occasion, and I believe it was the part of a statesman to do as he did. Had he consented to a money contribution, we would have a yearly subject of discussion as to the policy pursued at the War Office, as to whether the money had been properly spent and various other questions which would only create irritation, and would eventually lead to probably a much wider divergence of views than would be pleasing to any of us. The aid that can be given will be given when the United Kingdom requires it. At all times you will find that Canada will send forward a body of men that will be not second to any part of the army which is gathered in from any other part of the empire.

The only other question to which I desire to call attention—and possibly a few remarks may be expected from me—was a reference to the only other important point likely to create dispute between the country to the south of us and ourselves, and that is the question of the delimitation of the Alaskan boundary. The other questions are of comparatively minor importance. If that question can be fairly and satisfactorily settled, a great deal of irritation will be removed in the feeling which prevails between ourselves and our neighbours to the south of us. The other questions can be readily settled by royal commission.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—What about the Atlantic fisheries?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The Atlantic fisheries is one of those questions which can be settled by conciliation and by arbitration between ourselves. There is no doubt about that. Under the peculiar influences which govern the Senate of the United States, it does appear that a few men, a half dozen senators or less, can hold up the whole body. The unfortunate condition of things which exists, referred to by my honourable friend, that is trusts and combinations among the senatorial body, is like a chain, it is unbroken and they all stand together. I rather think that even our treaty in reference to this country would have been thrown out had they not by universal consent ratified it