

and ways of thought, can never so entirely imbibe Anglo-Saxon feelings and prejudices as to unite with them as Canadians or Australians might do.

We may educate them to govern themselves or nearly so, we may give them, if we choose, responsible government, we may induce them by wise and kindly rule to look upon us as good friends and well-wishers, but we can never be more to them than foreigners, nor ever induce in them that mighty bond of union which springs alone, from blood relationship, from the community of race and colour, of national feeling and pride in common ancestors and inherited traditions, they may be contented and loyal to a certain point, most of them are so now, they may as in the case of the great negro population of the West Indies, possess no national traditions of their own, no real national feeling, have learnt all that they know from us, even speak our language as their own, but the insuperable barrier of race and colour will for ever prevent an absolutely trustworthy and complete union.

Therefore in resolving, as I hope we shall do, to maintain these colonies (some of them always, nearly all of them, under existing circumstances, for the present), we must resolve also to do it, *vi et armis*, by force if need be, against themselves and against all comers, and to that end we must be prepared to back our authority, if necessary, by material as well as moral means.

But although I maintain they cannot be regarded as ever likely to become a trustworthy and permanent addition to the strength of the Empire in other and more limited ways, they do add considerably to our resources, and, under wise government, they may yet do so much more.

Firstly, as I have said, they add to our resources by the trade they do with us.

Secondly, under certain contingencies, they may be useful as recruiting grounds for soldiers.

India is by far the best example of both kinds of usefulness, as it may also, at any moment, become the most striking instance of a possession which is a source of weakness instead of strength; with India, however, I am not to-night concerned.

But from the other Crown Colonies also, as I have shewn, we receive an indirect benefit in the way of trade, and this trade not only adds to our wealth but it enables us to maintain a larger population in these islands than they could otherwise support, and it is