seven hundred and ninety-one thousand male inhabitants, between the ages of fifteen and forty-five, that is over three-quarters of a million of men.   Switzerland, in the midst of enemies, maintains her independence with an army of two hundred thousand men.   That country, no doubt, is more inaccessible than Canada some portions of the year, but not more so during winter.   It may be said that Canada is safe during the winter months. The experience of the Americans on this point is conclusive.   Every expedition of theirs undertaken in the winter season has been a failure.   Indeed, it is doubtful if military operations of any consequence could be undertaken at all during the winter months.   Sleeping in a canvas tent or a bivouac one night with the thermometer ten or twenty degrees below zero, would paralyze the best army ever got together.   The great drawback to Canada in a military point of view is she has no backbone.   One hundred miles in on the American frontier and the cuticle is not passed.   One hundred miles into Canada and you are clean through on the other side, and in some places half that distance is sufficient.   Time and independence are the only remedies for this, and it is during this time that we need the guarantee.

Another element of strength belonging to Canada is her naval power, and her facility for building vessels.   The maritime population of Canada used to seafaring is very large. Including the fishermen of Newfoundland, who would be available in case of war, she would have at least fifty thousand hardy trained men to man her vessels or those which she might get from England.   This population must in itself be formidable, and of the greatest value to the Dominion.

Owing to the great improvements in war vessels and naval gunnery, it is not probable that our present shipping would be of much use in case of war ; but it is certain that we could manufacture as good a fleet out of it as would be opposed to us.

In all crude materials, for warlike purposes, Canada has within herself large supplies. Sulphur, charcoal, iron,