

tion, and relative importance. The advantages gained by this mode of selection, assuming the principle of any sort of representation to be sanctioned, are various.

" * * * "We are secure of men truly representing the majority in each Colony, because they would speak in the name, and bring with them the authority of the Cabinets and co-stituenccies they represented. We have no trouble about changing them, as they would sit till their successors, duly accredited, announced the fact of a change of administration."

"We are secure by this mode of obtaining the best men, because only the best men can win their way into these Colonial Cabinets, of whom the flower would be selected by their colleagues to represent the intellect and character of each Province on the floor of Parliament." (Page 24):—"Having made this step in advance, I would proceed to treat the whole Empire as the British Islands are treated, holding every man liable to serve the Queen in war, and making every pound's worth of property responsible for the national defence.

"Great care should be taken that, in every Province, a decennial census should be prepared under every possible guarantee for fulness and accuracy, and the information furnished by these returns should be digested and condensed so as to present at a glance a picture of the Empire.

"The census would of course give, as the basis of legislation:

"The number of people.

"The value of real and personal property.

"The amount of exports and imports.

"The tonnage owned.

"New ships built.

"The number of fishermen and mariners employed. The information gathered by the last census may, for present use, be sufficient, and if so:—

"A bill, making provision for the defence of the Empire, may be prepared to operate uniformly over the whole, and should be submitted simultaneously to all the Provinces. It should provide:—

"For the enrolment of all the men from 16 to 60, liable to be called out in case of war.

"For the effective organization and training, as militia, of men between the ages of 18 and 45, year by year in time of peace.

"For fixing the quota, which in case of hostilities any where each Province is to provide during the continuance of the war, the Colonial Government having the option to supply its quota by sending regiments already embodied, or by furnishing volunteers from the youth of the country, who might be better spared.

"For incorporating these men into the British Army with their regimental numbers, but with some distinctive name or badge to mark their origin, as the "Welsh Fusiliers," or "Eniskillen Dragoons," are distinguished. They should be paid out of the military chest, and treated, in all respects, as British troops, from the moment that they were handed over to the Commander-in-Chief.

"For the establishment of military training schools in each Province, and for instruction in military engineering and the art of war, at some siminary within reach of the youth of every group of Colonies.

"For the enrolment of all seafaring men from 16 to 60 as a naval reserve, the effective men between 18 and 45 being obliged to serve on board of block ships, harbour defences, or in any of Her Majesty's ships on the station, or in forts of water batteries, for the same number of days which effective militiamen are obliged to serve on shore." (Page 24):—"By another bill to operate uniformly over the whole Empire (India being excluded, as she provides for her own army,) the funds should be raised for the national defence. This measure, like the other, should be submitted for the sanction of the Colonial Government and Legislatures. This tax should be distinguished from all other imposts, that the amount collected could be seen at a glance, and that every portion of the whole people might see what they paid, and what every other portion had to pay.

"This fund could be either raised as head-money over the whole population, or in the form of a property or income tax, or by a certain percentage upon imports; constituting next to existing liabilities a first charge upon the Colonial revenues, and being paid into the military chest to the credit of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury."

In order to guard myself against the possibility of misrepresenting Mr. Howe's scheme, I have reproduced it in his own words. It will thus be seen, that Mr. Howe proposes that a merely nominal representation in the House of Commons should be given to the British Colonies enjoying Responsible Government, and that in exchange, the most despotic power should be exercised over the revenues and manhood of those Colonies. Apparently enamoured with the system adopted in despotic countries, Mr. Howe proposes to reduce the British Colonist to the position of a Russian "serf." It would be impossible to conceive a scheme more oppressive or unjust. It would give to the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, a representation in the House of Commons equal to that now enjoyed by