

that it was too much to expect of them to maintain, permanently, a large standing army for the sake of being prepared for such rare emergencies.

That the whole of the British force now kept up in this colony is absolutely needed, I venture not to doubt; but they who refuse to hope for its speedy reduction, appear to me to libel by anticipation our future colonial policy. I listened with no small impatience to the wishes expressed by some residents, that this full war establishment should be permanent, and to their discussions on the desirableness of new fortifications, to be executed at great cost by England, and of fleets of war-steamers to be built on the lakes, in order that they might at all times be ready for an outbreak with the United States.

The population of the British possessions in America, in 1842, amounted in round numbers to one million and a half.

Lower Canada	-	-	690,000
Upper Canada	-	-	526,000
New Brunswick	-	-	156,000
Nova Scotia	-	-	180,000
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			1,552,000
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The annual growth of the population of the United States, with which their wealth and territory keep pace, exceeds at present 700,000 souls, so that every two years' increase is about equal to the number of all the present inhabitants of British America. The mere contemplation of these figures