

people of the United States do not wish to desire a war with us, but the feeling with regard to the Alabama and other vessels is very strong. The President of the United States, in speaking to me of Lord Palmerston, remarked, that he was a great statesman, but wrong in the course he pursued with regard to the Alabama. The people do not desire war; but they number their population by millions, and soon there will be large bodies of men, who have acquired a military ardor, out of work, these will be found going to Mexico and Canada.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—Do you expect war?

Mr. COHNELL.—I express my honest conviction that these men will leave the States and go to Canada, Mexico, Cuba, and parts of South America. I am glad to see that the Canadians are determined to see what the British Government is going to do. Some of the hon. members think the people here do not want connection with Canada, and others that the connection was too speedy. I saw that throughout the canvass the honorable President of the Council expressed it only on the ground of time. (Mr. Smith.—"O, no.") And we have the word of the hon. member for Kent, that his first object was to turn out the existing Government and then see what was to be done.

(Mr. DesBrisay.—"I did not say that.") The matter with regard to the Militia Bill, the Post Office, had the Union of the Colonies, will come up hereafter and be discussed, I presume. I do not wish to take up the time, as this is to be a short Session. I see the hon. member is going to speak, and I suppose he will show us some plan by which the country can raise money without paying interest. I think something might be done in this matter.

The time has come when it is necessary to fix on some solid basis for our Banking interests. I am sure the people would be benefited if a different state of things existed. In New York the people feel secure. The way they work in Canada I have not looked into. If this Railway goes on, some plan could be matured by which the Province could issue notes which would be a legal tender for duties and all other things. There are many other things I should like to have seen in the Speech, but will not now go into them.

In reference to the Railway, I hope the Government will take immediate action on it. If it is not carried on great evils will fall upon the country. Young men, and old men too, that can get away, will leave the people want Railways, and it is just as well to have them at once. There is no source of wealth so good for the Province.

Hon. Mr. WILMER.—I thought the hon. member for Carleton was going to oppose the action of the present Government, but find at the close he intends to support it, or that at least he will offer no effective opposition to their measures. With regard to the clause of the Address under debate, I think it clearly shows that the Government intend to proceed with the work as soon as existing legislation admits. The hon. members for Northumberland say they are opposed to the proposition of Western Extension as a Government work, but are willing it should be carried on by a company. I think the Government could not have their heads tied up by the passing of these resolutions.

I would ask the hon. member for Northumberland, if the question was then spoken from Shediac to Chatham, if they would oppose it as a Government work, or rather if they would have it carried on as would be found best.

hope the hon. member will be induced to withdraw his amendment, and give the Government a chance to go on with the public business. The hon. member for Carleton wants the work to go on at once; but let the Government have time. The hon. member, Mr. Boyd, and myself are the oldest members of the House. When Railways were first mooted I moved a resolution, which, if acted on, would have prevented our being burdened with a heavy foreign debt. I thought then that Treasury notes should have been issued, and I think so still. That was in 1849, just after the great depression of 1847. Now we have experience in constructing roads; we have plenty of labor if we had the money to employ it; there is lumber to make the sleepers, material and skilled mechanics to erect station-houses and all other works. The only article we really need to import is the iron rails to lay the track. My object always has been to employ the labor of our own country. And I hope the time will soon come when we shall be able to make our own rails. I have always been in favor of progress and free trade; but while the law made gold the basis for paying the debt, it was important that the imports should exceed the exports, as otherwise it would cause a panic and crisis. We have seen what has been done in the United States; and the plans they have adopted to raise means to carry on their great undertakings. The House will have to see in what way Railways can best be provided for. I heard in St. John that there were a million dollars lying in the Bank at three per cent. interest. If we had an issue of Province notes as in Prince Edward Island we could raise money to carry on our public works as the House will know. The revenue last year was \$1,080,000. I shall not, however, go into figures, but I hope the House will give the Government a chance to do something. They do not intend to be a do-nothing Government, nor to enter upon works which will embarrass and displease the Province. All they ask is a little time to mature their plans and carry out a policy which shall be for the welfare of the country.

Mr. BURTON.—When I was elected to a seat in this House, I was not pledged to the support of any Government, neither was I set to support Confederation, for Confederation was dead before the election took place, but I was returned pledged to oppose this measure. Few as the public works are which this Government have introduced, they have introduced one too many for me. I never had the pleasure to shake hands with the President of the United States, although I deplore the commission of a crime, the result of which has filled all hearts with sorrow. But with regard to this question, last year the people of the North paid \$2,300 to the support of the Railway from St. John to Shediac. This line is of very little advantage to them, and I think it would be an act of injustice to them, to make them pay a further sum to push the extension to the Western frontier. If the people of Saint John have confidence that the Railway will bring so much benefit to them, and they will get the benefit if any body does, let them take stock in the company and assist in building it. There are four Counties in the North that would receive little or no benefit from this extension. Why did not the Government foretell the construction of a line to the North? If this had been done, we might have had a shanty town at work and a cane building in Chatham. I remember the promise of an

honorable member for York, that we should have rail for rail, spade for spade, sleeper for sleeper; but it does not seem to be the intention of Government to pursue that plan. We have had experience in the building of Railways, and the honorable member for Saint John must know that the cost of construction would be much greater to Government than it would be to a company like that formed. The roads and bridges are in a bad state, and require heavy expenses to put them in a good condition. The roads from Chatham to Richibucto is said to be so bad, that it is almost impossible to get along. I have worked for years, side by side, with some of the members of the present Government, and know their ability, but on this point I cannot give them my support. If my honorable friend and colleague saw the injury that will be done to the people of the North by this measure, he would not stay in any Government who determined to carry on the work.

Mr. NEEDHAM.—I wish the hon. member for Carleton were in his place to hear my remarks. With regard to the hon. member for Northumberland's remarks, there are always two sides to a story. Believing, and knowing as I did, that Western Extension included a line to Chatham, I did make the remark that I would go for their having rail for rail. But, as Western Extension was the basis of the whole thing, as he is opposed to our end of the line, of course I am absolved from my remark. This is an important measure, but before coming to it, I wish to follow the example of other hon. members who have spoken on the Speech, and introduced a good many things outside of it. No man, having any regard for humanity, or the principles of right and wrong, can do otherwise than endorse the expressions of the Speech and Reply, respecting the death of the President of the United States. It is not often the case in the present day that the head of a nation falls by the hand of an assassin, and the effect of this blow will be felt not only by every manly heart on this continent, but by those on the other side of the Atlantic. It is well known that from the time of the firing of the first gun at Sumter to the present, my sympathies have been in favour of the North. But with regard to Railways, and I am glad the hon. member for Carleton is now in his seat, I do not quite understand the position he takes. He is surely not willing to take the right of building Railways, given to companies, by existing acts, from them; for this principle if extended would deprive the people of Queen's from the right to the coal mines, and deprive Carleton of their iron. Any man who would pursue such a course, and take Stock away from any company, ought not to be permitted to stand on the floors of this House. I am opposed to the building of Railways by companies; as I think it should be a Government work. Still rights, granted to companies must be maintained, but if the conditions are not complied with, then I believe the work should be carried on by Government, and with a due regard to the interests of the different parts of the Province. The hon. member for St. John has fully explained the principle of the private rights of individuals, and how the law aims to restrain any infringement of those rights. I cannot go for this amendment. There was a time when I was on the floors of the House with the hon. member for Carleton; and a member of his to-day brings back the remembrance of old times. It was when he said, "Something must be done." I have not heard it since the time we were