

struction—I see foreshadowed in reference to this matter. If the Government intend to refer to the course to be pursued by the heads of Departments, I hope they will inform the country,—which is looking to the House that something may be done—that they will assure the country that something will be done to stop the tide of emigration from this Province. Unless some steps are taken by the development of the resources of the country; unless public works are inaugurated to improve the state of the country, young men will leave as fast as they can; and I should like to have seen some assurance given that some measures would be introduced for the good of this Province in this respect. It is said: Let them depend on their own exertions; but when there is little or nothing on which their exertions can be effectually expended, they will go away to places where they can do better. Look at our Exports. The country once depended on its lumber, but now almost every move in that direction entails a loss. I am sorry in looking over the Speech to see nothing having reference to the mineral resources of the country. The time has come when these, if properly fostered and encouraged by judicious legislation, would make a vast improvement in the labor and industry of this Province. Look at the coal-mines of Albert and Queen's Counties; is anything being done to encourage the development of their riches? When in the Government I was instrumental in producing a grant of \$2000 to develop our mineral resources, and I now consider it to be one of the first and most important points to be looked after by a Government. Unfortunately many of these mines are in the hands of individuals who cannot work them to advantage. (Hon. Mr. Smith: "Would you take them out of their hands?") I would do something to encourage moneyed men to come to the Province and buy them, even if they had to pay an exorbitant price for them, rather than they should remain as they are. I know gentlemen at the present time who are willing to go into the working up of the coal districts, but what would be the use of spending five, ten or twenty thousand dollars without seeing a chance for a return? I think the Government should take hold of this matter.

Again, there is a large quantity of iron in the district in which I reside, indeed there the most valuable iron is found of any place in the Provinces. There is every facility for working it, plenty of wood for firing, but what is the state of things, what is the fact? Last year a gentleman from England said to a gentleman interested in the working of the mines and who was desirous of obtaining the assistance of capitalists, "Your iron is without doubt very valuable, there is wood and every other requisite for its working, but till we can ascertain by the action of the Colonies that they intend to provide for the defences of the country it would not be safe to invest money in the work." If we could have obtained Confederation there would have been no difficulty. I believe that if the majority of the people were able to express their opinion on that question to-day, they would decide in its favor. The people in the section of country where I reside know the value that connection would have been. I have often invited the President of the Council to go up and visit that part, and I now extend the invitation to the Hon. Surveyor General. I hope he will come and see for himself the value of the mineral resources we possess and

that the next Speech will have something to say about it. We have the iron, we have the wood and coal, and for three months in the year we have water communication but for the other nine months we have no outlet for the productions of the country. Lumber with us is nearly run out, and it is to be hoped the people will now leave off a business not good for the country and engage in some operations that will prove more beneficial. At the first we had a company at work, but their operations did not prove successful. Now the company are working right. They have one furnace and another partially completed, but unless they receive some assistance from the Government by opening up communication it is doubtful if they will be long able to continue on. The expense of carrying on the works is very large; wood and coal can only be brought in at prices that make the labor unremunerative. This matter is most important.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—What, do you want a railway?

Mr. CONNELL.—Yes, we want you to build it now. The Government have not shewn to the country that they have done anything to remove the difficulties said to exist, which precludes them from carrying on Western Extension. It appears that the only way in which they are at all bound, is by the offer of Mr. Livesey to build the line to the Nova Scotia boundary. But what does that amount to? The offer was accepted on certain conditions, which have not yet been fulfilled. It seems that somebody has been at work in order to obtain the building of the line from the Bend through the County of Westmorland, and that that work is to go on, whatever else is done. This arrangement, however, has nothing to do with Western Extension. I do not see that it stands in the way at all. If it does, I should like to see some paper from the last Government, shewing that difficulties really do exist. It is said with regard to the company formed in St. John, that the President, now in England, has written back that nothing can be done there.

Hon. Mr. HATHEWAY.—Do you think that Mr. Tilley would now sell out his Stock?

Mr. CONNELL.—I believe he would, since it appears the company will not be able to go on. The arrangement with Mr. Livesey seems to be the only difficulty in the way, if a difficulty really exist. The railway in operation has been managed well, but the Government appear to desire to be relieved from all responsibility with regard to extended works. Col. Royd is the only member now in the House—Mr. Wilmot and I came in shortly after—who heard the first speech made before this House by Sir J. Harvey. He said his Government would lead the way, but it was for the Legislature to act.—I am glad to see that the President of the Council has changed his views on the question of railways. He has a perfect right to change his mind, and I hope he will change it on the subject of Confederation. Whenever anything is said on this question, the honorable member looks over at me. It is said the Government was formed on the principle of Confederation. If such be the case, Mr. Speaker, I appeal to you, whether a Government founded on one question, alone, without a reference to the general interests of the country, can have the confidence of the people. The honorable member for Northumberland has said that he could not support the present Government because of the conservative element in it.

Mr. WILLISTON.—Mr. Speaker, I made no such observation. I merely said, that I could not support them in this matter. I could not vote for this part of the speech.

Mr. CONNELL.—If the honorable member did not say so, I stand corrected, although I was of opinion he did say it, but no matter. So far as the Government is concerned, it makes no difference to me now, that I am speaking in reference to their action with regard to their railway policy, for if they will go to work and carry out a good policy, I will support them. I think that something like the following, instead of the paragraph under debate, would have been more satisfactory to the people: "We will consider whether further facilities can be afforded for the extension of Railways in this Province. We are pleased to learn that the completion and extension of the European and North American Railway, from the frontier of Nova Scotia to the boundary of the United States, will be undertaken as soon as the necessary legislation can be had thereon." I want the country to understand, that this work will go on when legislation can be had upon it. But I wish to refer to the Speech generally. "We share with Your Excellency the feelings of satisfaction at the prospect of the speedy restoration of peace in the neighboring Republic." Everybody must rejoice at the speedy close of the war, but still must deeply regret what has taken place with regard to the death of the President. I have been in that section of country, and seen the devastation and destruction that have taken place there. I have seen the battle fields and the hospitals, and know the evils resulting from the civil war; and hon. members who have not witnessed them, must all regret the strife which has raged there. On hearing the news of the death of the President, I was very much struck with surprise and regret, and was glad to see the feelings of sympathy which was expressed. I had the pleasure of a personal interview with the President. A kinder-hearted man did not exist; his countenance shined. His death is a loss to the nation—a loss that must be felt to be great at the present time. I am rejoiced at the expressions of sorrow which has pervaded the minds of all on this Continent on this subject. Every friend to humanity must abhor the act of the murderer.

I next come to the Confederation business. I shall not make any remarks on this further than to say, that when the resolution comes before the House, I shall state my views on the subject. They are known now to the country. I thought I was correct in the judgment I formed of the scheme, and I think so yet. We must either provide for the defence of this country or let it alone. It is the duty of Government to see to the proper defence of the Colony, or they had better let legislation alone. If Confederation had taken place, I would have voted for the appropriating of such a sum as would be suited for the purpose according to our means. But until they adopt this policy I shall not vote away a shilling, except for such small affairs as are absolutely indispensable. Look at the report of Col. Jervis. He says that beyond Kingston it is futile to provide for the defence of Canada. On this account I believe Confederation would have proved a benefit, so that we should have had means for defence, and further means which we could probably have obtained from the British Government; but for us to attempt to provide for defence alone is futile. The