

petitions which had come in had been carried round by bank clerks (hear, hear), and an expression had been forced from the country. He deprecated entering into a controversy with the large and important interests of the country; but a government unable to deal with such a question was unworthy of its position. It had been represented that the Government should have been overawed by this manifestation of public opinion; but the same opposition had been manifested in England to Sir Robert Peel's measure, the same opposition had to be overcome in France; and the same in India when Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Lang, introduced a measure similar in principle to that embodied in these resolutions. He wished it to be remembered that there were three distinct systems now in operation within the Dominion, and the large public works going on in the East, and soon to be going on in the West, would create a larger field for banking operations, that would render these three separate systems utterly unreliable and dangerous to the public interests. His hon. friend had spoken as if there was entirely a new system of banking proposed; but the only changes in the system were with respect to the power of the banks to issue notes. When they found themselves at the beginning of a new national existence they required a policy suited to the altered circumstances of the country. This measure had been spoken of as a proposal by the Government to take from the banks the powers they possessed, but was that the case? The bank charters are about to expire; the powers of the banks are about to lapse, and as they come to ask for a renewal of their charters the Government lay down the conditions upon which these charters may be extended. This was a very different measure from that of Sir Robert Peel, which prohibited the banks of issue from making any further issue of notes.

THE NORTH WEST

Sir George E. Cartier said, before recess, he wished to obtain the concurrence of the House to the Address from the Senate, on the Northwest Territory, in order that the Address might be forwarded to her Majesty by next mail.

The Address was concurred in and,

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

After recess.

Hon. Mr. Rose resumed. He was too seriously impressed with the importance of

tion. Entamer une controverse portant sur les intérêts importants du pays lui répugne, mais un Gouvernement incapable de s'occuper d'une telle question est indigne de sa charge. On a dit que le Gouvernement aurait dû être intimidé par cette manifestation de l'opinion publique, mais la même opposition s'est manifestée en Angleterre envers la mesure de Sir Robert Peel; il a fallu surmonter la même opposition en France, et encore en Inde lorsque MM. Wilson et Lang ont présenté une mesure semblable. On doit se souvenir qu'il y a trois systèmes distincts en vigueur dans le Dominion et les travaux publics importants dans l'Est, et bientôt dans l'Ouest, créeront un vaste champ d'opérations bancaires qui pourraient rendre ces trois systèmes distincts extrêmement dangereux et instables. Son honorable ami a parlé comme si le système bancaire proposé était tout à fait nouveau mais les seuls changements dans le régime ont trait au droit des banques d'émettre du papier-monnaie. Lorsque celles-ci se sont trouvées au début d'une nouvelle ère nationale, elles ont exigé une politique mieux adaptée aux conditions nouvelles. On a prétendu que le Gouvernement, par cette mesure, visait à retirer leurs pouvoirs aux banques, mais est-ce bien là la situation? Les chartes bancaires vont bientôt expirer, les pouvoirs des banques seront bientôt suspendus et à mesure qu'elles demandent le renouvellement de leur charte, le Gouvernement établit les conditions de cette prorogation. C'est une mesure très différente de celle de Sir Robert Peel qui interdisait aux banques d'émettre des billets.

LE NORD-OUEST

Sir George-É. Cartier désire, avant la suspension de la séance, obtenir l'accord de la Chambre sur l'Adresse du Sénat concernant les Territoires du Nord-Ouest afin que celle-ci puisse être transmise à Sa Majesté par le prochain courrier.

L'Adresse est approuvée.

Comme il est 6h, l'Orateur quitte le fauteuil.

Reprise de la séance.

L'hon. M. Rose reprend la parole. La question est à son avis trop importante pour dire