

country than did Mr. Howe by his intellectual displays. On one occasion he said:—

"This is the prospect before us, and the duties it imposes we must learn to discharge with energy; the destiny it discloses we may contemplate with pride. *England forces yet fears it not.* * * She believes in the existence of the old feelings here which are to strengthen with our strength and bind us to her by links of love, when pecuniary obligations have been cancelled. She virtually says to us by this offer, there are seven millions of sovereigns at half the price that your neighbors pay in the markets of the world; construct your railways; people your waste lands; organize and improve the boundless territory beneath your feet; learn to rely upon and to defend yourselves and God speed you in the formation of national character and national institutions."

Again he says:—

"I am not sure, sir, that even out of this discussion may not arise a spirit of union and elevation of thought that may lead North America to cast aside her colonial habits, to put on national aspects, to assert national claims, and prepare to assume national obligations. Come what may, I do not hesitate to express the hope that from this day she will aspire to consolidation as an integral portion of the realm of England, or assert her claims to a national existence."

This is very significant language from Mr. Howe, and I now quote Mr. Annand's comments thereon:

"Mr. Howe desired to create a NORTH AMERICAN nation, watchful of republican America, even while pursuing common objects, but in perpetual friendship and alliance with the British Isles."

Here we have the sentiments of the hon. member for East Halifax, under his own hand, nearly eight or nine years ago,—when he did not expect that his political opponents would succeed in carrying into effect what he and Mr. Howe then expressed a desire to form, a *British American Nation*. What does this mean? Is not that a Union of the Colonies? Or is it some new combination of which we have not yet heard? The House will recollect that the hon. member for Halifax, in the discussion of this question last night, while endeavoring to avoid the dilemma in which he was placed by the resolution which he moved in 1862, stated that they did not intend to do anything—that the resolution was a delusion—that they looked forward to a Union after the Railway was completed. Mr. Howe always declared that a railway was an essential precedent of Union, but he also as invariably contended that the railway was only the means towards that great end. "Why do I want a railway? Perhaps for the pecuniary and commercial advantages that it may bring to us, but the great object I have in view is a Union of the Colonies." That was the sum and substance of his arguments. I ask then when we attain the great end he had in view and at the same time, and by means of the Union obtain the Railway which he vainly laboured so hard to secure, why does he now factiously oppose the measure which brings about the very result he wished to obtain. Mr Howe says on the same occasion:—

"Of one thing I am proud to day: of the unanimity and evident attachment to the home of our fathers which have characterized this meeting. In the generous offer of the government and people of England, we have felt John Bull's heart, beating against our own. * * Until the time arrives when *North America shall rise into a nation* nothing can be more honorable than our connection with the parent state. * * I do not disguise from you that I look hopefully forward to the period when these splendid Provinces, with the population, the resour-

ces and intelligence of a nation, will assume a national character. Until that day comes we are safe beneath the shield of England, and when it comes we shall stand between the two great nations whose blood we share, to moderate their counsels and preserve them in the bonds of peace."

Shortly afterwards Mr. Howe visited New Brunswick, and in a speech delivered there, thus reported by the hon. member for Halifax in the book I have referred to:—

"I thought it was now full time that we had higher objects in view than a mere transit traffic, and I therefore urged the general views and aspects of these Provinces, for the purpose of preparing the public mind in England to promote their elevation to a far higher status in the scale of nations." And Mr. Annand thus comments on the above and previous parts of the same speech.

"Having very adroitly detached some of the prominent public men of New Brunswick, and brought out in bold relief the proportions of that great field of honorable emulation and exertion which they would tread, when Union of the Provinces by iron roads had been followed by the political organization which would be the immediate result, he said:—

"If the sphere were wide enough here, what would you do with such men? You would send Judge Wilmot to administer justice. Where? To a small Province? No; but to an American Empire. You would place Mr. Chandler on the bench of the United Provinces; you would hold out to the young men of your country a sphere and a field for their exertions and their ambition which none of them have open to them now. How? By violence? By rebellion? By bloodshed? No. You would seek to live under the old flag. You would seek not separation from the mother country—that would be madness, folly, bad faith; but with the consent of the Sovereign, and the acquiescence of the Imperial authorities, by the united action and good sense of all the Provinces. You would seek by union to elevate them all to a higher status than any of them separately can ever enjoy. I believe that Railways will be of great use to these Provinces, but I believe also that it is necessary, nay almost indispensable, to produce a social and political organization of the people, to raise these Provinces to a higher position than they can ever singly attain."

And in his report to his own government, in 1867, he says:—

"Among all ranks and classes the railroad seemed to be regarded as indispensable agencies by which North Americans would be drawn into a common brotherhood, inspired with higher hopes, and ultimately elevated by some form of political association, to that position, which, when these great works have prepared the way of union, one half of this continent may fairly claim in the estimation of the world."

In his speech on the organization of the empire, he said:—

"If, then, the British and Colonial statesmen do not incorporate this people into the British Empire, or make a nation of them, they will, long before their numbers have swelled so much, make a nation of themselves."

What did Mr. Howe mean by all that? Higher status in the scale of nations, Union? Higher position when North America shall rise into a nation, &c? Did he mean that little Nova Scotia would rise into a great nation?—He was speaking then of British America—asking them to build the road and obtain that standing in the world which the advocates of union are now endeavoring to bring about. He was advocating then exactly what we are advocating now. I would like, before passing from this subject, to read another extract to the hon. member for Yarmouth who, pointing to the map before him, said that Canada was a dreary waste—that we could not expect any commercial or manufacturing advantages from connection with her—that she, from her natural