

position brought into the House ; and no doubt every hon. gentleman who has read the decision in *Russell vs. the Queen*, decided last June by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, believes that it is necessary and that it is incumbent on this Parliament to restrain any abuse arising from the sale of intoxicating liquors since the Legislatures can only license for revenue purposes. In view of the decision of the Privy Council, I consider this legislation necessary, and, much as I was opposed in former sessions to this Parliament dealing with the matter, I believe, that the time for action has now come.

I am glad, as a member of Nova Scotia, to learn that the Intercolonial Railway is no longer a burden on the Dominion ; that it not only pays current expenses, but has yielded a surplus of about \$9,000.00 during the past year. Not only has the traffic largely increased, but the revenue has also grown while the rates charged on the line have been diminished. Going back to 1878, I remember, there were in this House, certain hon. gentlemen—I see some of them before me now—who condemned that railway and censured the management of it. At that time there was a deficit of, I think, half a million dollars. I am very glad that we, from the Lower Provinces, can now feel that this railway is no longer a burden on the Dominion, and that instead of being a source of taxation to the country, it has, under able management, become a source of revenue.

There is one subject to which the hon. member from Halifax, (Mr. Power), referred—the sugar refineries. I remember the time when there was a great deal of talk about “bloating manufacturers,” and when the Government was charged with building up monopolies at the expense of the country. I do not know but that my hon. friend himself was of that mind, and I am glad to find by his remarks of yesterday, that he takes a different view of the question now—that he has discovered that competition has brought down prices and the people are paying no more now, for those necessaries of life, than they did before the National Policy was inaugurated. The cry now, instead of being directed against the “bloating manufacturers coining money at the expense of the people” is, that the manufacturers are not reaping fair returns for their investments. The

hon. gentleman referred to the sugar refineries in order to prove that the policy of the Government had failed, but he should bear in mind that these enterprises require, in addition to large capital, special skill and careful management, to make them profitable. I regret that these refineries are not paying as large dividends as those who are interested in them anticipated, but it ill becomes those who opposed the National Policy, and raised an outcry against manufacturers, to complain now of the ill success which may have attended any branch of manufacturing industry.

HON. MR. NELSON—Before the close of the debate, I deem it my duty, from the prominent reference which has been made to His Excellency’s visit to British Columbia, to say something on that point : I do not intend to enter into the subject generally, or to review the Address in any way ; I leave that for more experienced members than myself. I wish to express the gratification which the people of British Columbia felt when His Excellency and the Princess Louise visited the Province, and more particularly because in the late Address from the Throne, at the meeting of the local legislature, no mention has been made of their visit. I feel assured that the omission was an oversight. It certainly could not have been intentional in any way. I know from the character of the gentlemen who form the Government there, that such an omission could not have been intentional, and you all know that the Lieut.-Governor, who was a member of this House, and favorably known while he was a Senator, would have had the matter made right, if it had been the result of anything more than oversight. His Excellency, I may say, during his stay in British Columbia, visited as much of the Province as he possibly could, and arrived at certain conclusions with regard to its resources ; but there was a great portion of British Columbia which he could not visit, from the absence of means of communication.

There is another matter to which I wish to refer : In speaking of the general welfare of the Dominion, and the great progress which has been made, I must mention the rapid advance which British Columbia has made of late. During the last half year, the revenues from