

BRITISH AND AMERICAN INTERCOURSE.

"A momentous question involving, as we sincerely believe it does, the stability and permanency of British Interests on this Continent."

Address to Her Majesty from the New Brunswick Legislature, May, 1850

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY,

PRIME MINISTER AND FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY.

MY LORD,

IN the *Daily News* of yesterday's date, a notice appears from a Correspondent at Quebec, dated the 10th ult., saying, "Last Saturday's *Gazette* contained an important proclamation. It was enacted in the Railway Act of last session that if, from any unforeseen cause the Colonies should fail in obtaining from the Imperial Cabinet the guarantee required to procure English capital to build the **TRUNK LINE**, the Governor-General should be at liberty to throw open the enterprise to private capitalists in this Province, *and in the United States*, and to advance Provincial bonds for one half the amount required for any single line. It seems that our Cabinet have only just decided that the negociation with Sir John Pakington is a failure, and have come to the conclusion that if the **MAIN TRUNK LINE** is to be built at all, it must be by our own unaided efforts; so the Proclamation notifies to the world that the various sections of the Road are at the disposal of capitalists."

When, my Lord, the supineness of the late Government with reference to this great undertaking encouraged those movements in the British North American Colonies which led to the **PORTLAND CONVENTION** in July 1850, and the inaugu-