

skill in hunting. They were a plucky lot, and in every way fitted for the work. He hoped that all the expeditions now out, of which there were some six or eight, might return safe.

The lecturer having resumed his seat amid applause, a couple of gentlemen proposed questions respecting the number of occasions when he had found the Straits jammed with ice; and as to whether he thought that the climate was likely to have changed any during the past fifty years.

In answer to the first the lecturer repeated his statement that he had only been there three times. As to the second, he said that there were no facts to show that any change had taken place. Ships were still in the habit of meeting large quantities of ice. The whalers and H. B. Compay's captains, with whom he had a large acquaintance, stated that the ice was as uncertain and dangerous now as it had ever been.

His Grace, the Archbishop of St. Boniface, rose to move a vote of thanks to the lecturer. In doing so he spoke in high terms of the ability of the lecturer, and of the gratitude which was due to the lecturer for the interesting moments which the audience had spent. He thought that the experience related proved what a man might do in depending upon himself. He was sure every person present was delighted with what he had heard. His Grace had frequently met men who had accompanied Dr. Rae in his expeditions; and from the way in which they spoke of him, he ought to be successful. He was always kind to his men, and took the lead, giving such an example as they were always delighted to follow, though the means at his command had been in some instances very small.

U. S. Consul Taylor, in seconding the motion, remarked that while he accorded heartily with every tribute to Dr. Rae as a hero of Arctic discovery, yet he begged the indulgence of the audience in a few words recognizing his later and no less eminent service to the communities of Minnesota and Manitoba, in forwarding the enterprise of an international telegraph and railway connecting the Mississippi River and Lake Superior and Winnipeg with the mouth of the Frazer River in British Columbia, and with this view he would briefly recall some incidents of the year 1858. It was a year every way memorable. A report upon the territory of the Hudson's Bay Company, by a select committee of the English House of Commons, had made certain the speedy colonization of Central British America; Minnesota was organized in that year as a State, with ample subsidies for a railway system to the international boundary; the citizens of St. Paul inaugurated steamboat navigation on the Red River of the north; the gold discovery of Frazer River was speedily followed by the creation of the colony of British Columbia; the English Colonial Secretary, Sir Bulwer Lytton, avowed the policy of continuous colonies from Lake Superior to the Pacific, and a viaduct across British America as the most direct route from London to Peking or Jeddo; and, almost concurrently, the world was electrified by a message through the Atlantic depths, uniting Europe and America by telegraph. Then suddenly came an eclipse. The Atlantic cable, throbbing feebly for twenty days, became utterly