

been laid three or four years ago, a very large sum, indeed, would have been saved to the people of the North-West in transportation, and particularly in view of the heavy charges which were made by the Steamboat Company which does business on the waters of the Red River. It is a mystery to me why the one route, of which I have spoken, has not been opened up earlier, and how the second route is to be used at all for many years to come. I trust that we shall have information on these points. I can unite thoroughly in that part of the Speech from the Throne referred to in these resolutions, which relates to the Fisheries award. I do not think we have derived, under the arbitration, that amount of compensation to which the evidence entitled us. I think the accumulation of evidence was very great in our favor, and our case was very thoroughly submitted, but I do not think we can congratulate ourselves upon the measure of justice which has been done to us, and the award which yet remains to be paid. I can express myself in the language of this paragraph, that the amount is much less than that claimed, and to which the people of this country are entitled, but as it has been the result of mutual reference, we are ready loyally to submit to it. I do not know about the return of prosperity that is mentioned. I agree with both of my hon. friends who have spoken, neither of whom can see in the bountiful harvest which it pleased Providence to bless parts of this Dominion with, any evidence of a return of that prosperity which we enjoyed some years ago. Other causes besides those referred to—European causes to which my hon. friend from Sunbury alluded some years ago—still affect this country, and it must be from some other and stronger sources of prosperity, than the mere results of a harvest in one portion of the Dominion that we must look for a return of prosperity. I do not concur in the language used by the hon. member who moved the Address, in which he says that the Government could not have done anything to avert the depression. I think the Government and Legislature could have done much, and could now do much, not to avert this commercial depression, but to alleviate the depression in manufacturing, which makes the commercial depression the greater. I believe it is the conviction

*Hon. Mr. Campbell.*

of a great many members who now hear me, that a great deal could have been done, and it would have been a matter of great gratification to the majority of this House and the country, if there had been a paragraph in the Speech from the Throne showing that an effort was to be made to alleviate the depression which has so long afflicted the Dominion. There seems to be in this Speech from the Throne some sort of display of sympathy. It is certainly very cold, and hardly to be called an expression of sympathy, but in previous Speeches from the Throne in this Chamber, there was no expression of sympathy of any kind. Even now it is only an allusion. It does seem that the Government have no sympathy with the unfortunate state of depression which exists all over the country. They express none. When deputations are sent to them they receive curt answers, and when the Speech is made from the Throne the language is of the coldest character, and offers no promise and no hope of any effort being made to ameliorate the condition of the country. I could not but smile at the allusion which my hon. friend from St. John made to the measure to secure the Independence of Parliament. I venture to ask, if it is not too late? And whether the course pursued by the Government in another place which we are not now allowed to mention in this Chamber, has not been to so honeycomb the independence of that body that it is now too late, in the last Session of this Parliament, to pass a measure to secure its independence. The paragraph which proposes to put in some uniform and complete shape the laws relating to the traffic in intoxicating liquors will meet with the sympathy of the House, and especially my hon. friend from Sarnia, who has so long taken an interest in this question. I hope the measure will be such an one as will recommend itself to the favorable consideration of this House, and that we shall be able to enact a law which will at all events open the way to my hon. friend from Sarnia, and others interested with him, to such measures as are likely to result in the depression (to use one of the words of the Speech), in the traffic in liquor. I do not propose to move any amendment to the Speech, and I am happy to coincide with some parts of it. I wish there was any evidence that the