

as this, and from a condition of war such as we find ourselves in, that we can learn the lessons that the past has to teach us. When the Crimean war was fought there were only three or four men of prominence in England who had the courage to oppose that war. The Crimean war was fought to bolster up what every one knows to-day is past bolstering up, to bolster up the rottenest thing that exists on the face of the earth—rottenest even than German Imperialism—the Turkish Empire. We fought Russia to keep up Turkey. There is nobody talking of fighting Russia to keep up Turkey to-day. The fact is, the Russian bear and the British lion are both concentrated on that old bird, and when the two animals have finished with it there will not be very much of the old bird left. Let me point out that the wise men of Crimean days were Richard Cobden and John Bright, who said then that Turkey was rotten, and lost their seats in Parliament for saying it—but did not lose any of their greatness or of the lasting admiration of their countrymen. I lived a few years later to waken one fine morning and read the speech of the late Lord Salisbury in which he said, in his large, cynical way, that we now find that in the Crimean we “had put our money on the wrong horse.” Everybody, of course, is in favour of the bag-and-baggage policy in regard to Turkey to-day; but when Mr. Gladstone introduced that phrase it was not safe for him to walk along the streets of London, and he had his windows broken in Harley street—because of the tremendous need of bolstering up the Turkish Empire. I offer these historical observations to encourage my hon. friend from Waterloo to get, if the need ever should arise, an even larger degree of courage than that for which we admire him.

There are a few observations in his speech which I am sure he will forgive me for adverting to. He referred to those who knew that this war was coming. Well, the Prime Minister (Sir Robert Borden) did not know it, for he told us last summer that the war had come upon us with such alarming suddenness that it had taken all of us by surprise. No one in the British Government knew it was coming, for Mr. Lloyd George has told us since the war broke out that Germany and England were on better terms than they had been for fifteen years before, that no member of the Cabinet expected war, and that he himself

[Mr. M. Clark.]

had been about to go away on a holiday. So, those who knew that the war was coming—were really mortals of such insignificance that their opinions did not count, and we never heard of them until my hon. friend referred to them to-day in the somewhat vague way which I have indicated.

I wish to endorse what the hon. gentleman has said as to the greatness and importance of the work done by the British navy. His words of admiration were so strong that the work of the navy would seem to have been something of a surprise to him. Well, it was not a surprise to some of us. I am one of those who never particularly admired Germany from some points of view. Neither did I ever fear her, nor did I ever doubt what would happen to her navy if she ventured it against the British navy. The difficulty is our navy has not enough to do: its difficulty is in finding the German navy. I hope I am not trenching on dangerous ground; I fear I am not as adroit as my hon. friend, but come more directly to my subject; but if he talked navy to this extent, I shall not be breaking any truce in following his example.

My hon. friend showed wonderful independence of mind, as my hon. friend the Minister of Finance did in his speeches throughout the country, in adopting a very large portion of the teachings of one of the men whom I have already mentioned here this evening; I mean the teachings of Richard Cobden. If he reads Cobden's speeches my hon. friend will find that he dwelt continuously upon the need of a country in the following of a wise economic policy seeing to its production. Well, as a very humble follower of that great man, I must claim not any originality but faithfulness to my teacher in having preached for years this doctrine of more production being needed for Canada, and you can understand that when my hon. friend the Minister of Finance takes up the tale in the country and my hon. friend the hon. member for North Waterloo takes it up in this House, my heart rejoices that at last Cobden has come into, at least, some of his own. And I have no doubt that in the case of such very young men as my two friends opposite, he will come into more of his own, because they are both very good learners, and in this matter they are certainly following a very great teacher. Of course, there is this about it, the hon. member for North Waterloo has to go a great deal farther in his