

fire of the enemy in defence of the British flag. Let us pray God, the God of battles, that he will protect our sons and our brothers, and return them to their homes covered with glory after having aided in achieving victory for the British arms on the soil of Africa, restored the sovereignty of the Queen in the Transvaal and hoisted the British flag triumphant over Pretoria. I have the honour to move the adoption of the address in reply to the speech from the Throne.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE—In rising to second the motion of the hon. gentleman who has preceded me, I think I can claim consideration in any remarks that I may make, as I am a new member of the Senate, and I know that the policy of this honourable body is to always extend a certain consideration to new members. I have not the pleasure of understanding the language in which the hon. mover has addressed the House. I am sorry that my education is deficient in that respect. I have no doubt that he has dealt with the important measures that are foreshadowed in the speech in a very exhaustive and able manner, and if I could interpret all that he has said. I have no doubt I would be inclined to let well enough alone, and resume my seat after having seconded the address. But, hon. gentlemen, if you will bear with me for a short time, I will allude to some of the important measures that are foreshadowed in the speech from the Throne. The first paragraph refers to the prosperity of this country as evidenced by its increased importation and exportation. I need not dwell upon the fact that this Dominion of ours is enjoying a high degree of prosperity. That cannot be disputed when we see by the papers that the volume of trade has increased eighty-two and a half million, in round numbers, for the last three years, making for each year, an average of twenty-seven and a half millions. This certainly is a gratifying statement, and proves conclusively that the Dominion is in a very prosperous condition. Not only is that so, but it is a fact that within the last six months of the fiscal year our volume of trade amounted to two hundred and three million dollars. The trade returns of corresponding six months of previous year was

Hon. Mr CASGRAIN.

only one hundred and seventy-seven millions dollars, being an increase of twenty-six million dollars. The subject that is commanding most attention in this country at this time is the unfortunate war which Great Britain is now waging against the Orange Free State and the Transvaal. Great Britain no doubt has been driven into this war against her inclination. The fact is that the misgovernment of the Transvaal, and the manner in which the Boer government has persecuted the Uitlanders of all creeds and nationalities, is a grievance which could not be overlooked in view of the number of British subjects residing in that country. She remonstrated and negotiations were carried on with a view to ameliorating or lessening the grievances of the Uitlanders, but they all failed. Instead of meeting the British government in a proper spirit, the negotiations culminated in the Boer government sending the British government an impertinent demand to at once cease sending troops and munitions of war into her own colonies. Hardly had the negotiations terminated, when the Boer armies invaded British territory, compelling the British government to take up arms in defence of her own colonies and to redress the grievances of her subjects and others in the Transvaal, and in the interest of good government and fair dealing with all classes and all denominations in the South African Republic. It is with pride that we recall the prompt manner in which the government and people of Canada volunteered to take up arms in defence of their Queen and empire. From one end of the country to the other, a spirit of loyalty prevailed in every household, and the people came forward nobly with men and means to assist the Imperial government in their struggle for right, for justice and good government.

I believe that before many decades it will be demonstrated that the Boers are now fighting against their own material interest. I believe that they will be subdued and that they will be given a constitution similar to ours as soon as they are capable and willing to accept and carry it out. I believe they will be given such a degree of self government as will enable them to become greater and more influential in the world than they are now. The fact is, if they had a government such as ours, capital and emigration