

NEW BRUNSWICK.

(From the New Brunswick Courier.)
SPEECHES AT THE LUNCHEON.
Turning of the First Sod of the European and North American Railway.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor arrived at the Custom House Building at a quarter before three, P. M., and at three o'clock the doors of the Banquet Room were opened.

It is calculated that upwards of seven hundred persons were present.
The Chair was filled by R. Jardine, Esq., President of the European and North American Railway Company.

On his right sat his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Betts, Mr. Neal, of Portland, &c., and on his left, Commodore Shubrick, William Jackson, Esq., M. P.; John A. Poor, Esq., J. W. Johnston, Esq., late Attorney General of Nova Scotia, &c., &c.

After partaking of the repast, the first toast given was, of course, "The Queen," which was drunk with all possible honor, and amidst enthusiastic cheers.

His Excellency Sir Edmund Head then rose, and said, that he did not rise for the purpose of repeating the expression of his gratification on this occasion, or of again asserting the great pleasure he felt in viewing what he saw around him; because he had already told them to-day what his feelings were.

But he would remark, that when he first came here, six years ago, the state of the Province was very different from what it now is. Some change had taken place since then; he had watched its progress with great satisfaction; and this feeling came with double force, when he witnessed the kindness, the cordiality and friendliness which had been displayed on this great occasion.

He could only say, that his own opinion of the importance of the meeting had not been exaggerated, and he looked forward with the utmost confidence to the future prosperity of New-Brunswick, in connection with the proceedings of this day. He had already uttered on paper, and read to them, this morning, his sentiments on this subject; but he thought it right to repeat, in a more familiar manner, those which he had expressed in his own genuine sentiments.

There was now present, very near him, a gentleman of well known ability and prominence, from the sister Province of Nova-Scotia, who had witnessed the memorable proceedings of this day, and he (Sir E. H.) wished that that gentleman might carry away with him an earnest hope, that a unanimity of action should now prevail all the British American Provinces; and that New-Brunswick, Nova-Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Canada, should be proud of the collective name of "British North America."

But, not to be mistaken, he must observe, that he was far from entertaining any feeling but that of the greatest friendship towards our neighbors on the Western border, with the like energy and determination, and with the same object in view, to extend the intercommunication to be extended in both directions.

His Excellency concluded, amidst thunders of applause, by proposing the health of "THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES," which was immediately drank with all possible honor, and vociferous acclamation.

The Chairman then gave as a toast—"Commodore Shubrick and the United States Navy." The gallant Commodore, on rising to respond, observed, that as far as the toast was personal to himself, he could give nothing in return but his thanks.

speech, the buzzing of subdued conversation in the room, prevented many observations from reaching us.

Mr. Johnston, after noticing the gratifying manner in which he had been called upon, observed, that he thought he might say on behalf of all the Sister Provinces, that he had anticipated the toast was entirely reciprocated by them, and would be gratefully acknowledged.

On behalf of Nova-Scotia, he could say so with more assurance; and on the part of himself, with the most grateful and heartfelt thankfulness. It was impossible to witness the Celebration of this day, without having prominently brought to mind the "floating" fifteen years since; a meeting which had justly filled a large space in the celebration of the day, at that time; because unquestionably, at that Convention of Portland the ground was prepared and the seed was sown, which they had seen to-day brought to successful germination; and when he looked forward, and saw it advancing to maturity, and crowned with fruit in great abundance, he could feel expectations of the highest order; but they must still look backward to the Convention of Portland, as having been the great originator of this scheme.

Sagacious minds had then formed the great idea, which the minds assembled here were now prepared to carry into operation. Preserving energy had been put forth for the purpose of maturing the great scheme; and those present would recognize the Convention of Portland as having devised and originated it. This great undertaking was not one of Provincial, but of National interest.

Of the three parties who met at Portland, New-Brunswick had the honor of being the first in carrying out her part of the arrangement. For a short time, perhaps, she had faltered from the principles which she then acted upon, viz. the duty and necessity of being the carvers of their own fortunes; but under happy auspices, and under powerful and friendly influences and assistance, she was brought back in due time to her first purpose; and now, with her Company formed, her Legislation matured, and her arrangements made, she was engaged in carrying out the same object.

(After some other observations in the same strain, which did not perfectly reach us, Mr. J. continued.) Another of the parties to the Portland Convention, the State of Maine, had the honor of originating this great scheme; and at the time when the Convention met, she had already taxed her energies to the promotion of the great work.

Since then she had labored in her efforts; but he now looked upon her as a giant refreshed. (he would not say with wine,) and to her eternal honor she had lately redeemed all her pledges, and was now fully prepared to go forth to the completion of her work; and assuredly, from the energy, perseverance and skill which she had exhibited, we might feel full confidence that her course in future would be marked with the like energy and determination.

It would not be surprising, if she were to be a third party to that Convention (Nova-Scotia), perhaps it might be as well that he should say nothing. (Laughter.) But if clouds and darkness hung over her head, they were but the natural concomitants of the political differences which had disturbed her repose and impeded her progress. But might we not hope, that the same spirit of friendship which had been witnessed elsewhere would hereafter so effectually work, that Railway Committee of Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick would faithfully work together, and as the rainbow brilliance emanates from the darkest clouds, we might hope that the future of Nova-Scotia would equally evince a brilliancy in striving contrast with the past. It would not become him to say much of the United States; and by means of which, facilities for intercommunication were to be extended in both directions.

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