

the past history of Great Britain, upwards of a thousand years ago, there was what was called the Heptarchy and those seven kingdoms were perpetually at war with each other. When the union was brought about, peace prevailed and progress and development followed. Then, again, when Scotland, England and Ireland were separated, there was disunion and fighting; when they became united there was peace. It was the same with India before England stepped in and planted the banner of civilization there. The tribes decimated one another, there was perpetual fighting, and famines and disasters were of frequent occurrence. Within the past two centuries that great population, amounting to 300,000,000 people, has been brought under the rule of Great Britain and now peace reigns within their borders, famines are impossible and great benefits are flowing from the development and progress that have there taken place in consequence of British power having planted its foot down and firmly and judiciously exercised control. In the same way, union in other parts of the world shows the beneficent results that have flowed from it. The next point that I desire to make in bringing this question before you is to point out the destructiveness of war at the present time.

Hon. Mr. PROWSE—We know that.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—I dare say, hon. gentlemen, you know that, but I hope you will bear with me in order that I may develop, at any rate, what ideas I desire to propound.

Hon. Mr. DEVER—Give us the remedy.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—The hon. gentleman says we know that, but perhaps he does not realize the full extent of the destructiveness of war at the present day as compared with what it was a quarter of a century or half a century ago. He does not know, or he probably knows and does not realize, the enormous amount of destruction that can be wrought to-day upon all that the world has created as compared with half a century ago. It is when we contemplate the tremendous destructiveness of modern war engines that we can realize what an advantage it would be if conditions could prevail that would bring those under control. Hon. gentlemen can rea-

lize that the world depends upon its cable communication, it depends upon its powers to sail the seas with commerce, that the British nation depends entirely upon the importation of food from abroad in order to support its population. The people of this continent largely depend for their means of support upon their power and ability to transport that food to markets abroad. And so it is in connection with all the nations; and if this commerce were suddenly brought to a stop, if our cable communications were cut off, if privateers were to destroy the commerce, if our canals and other avenues of commerce were destroyed by dynamite, our railways and telegraphs cut off and other powers of destruction exercised, you can see how important it is for us to consider the advisability of bringing under control, in some way or other, this tremendous power in order that it may be averted, in order that chaos may not rule, and that the benefits of progress and civilization during the Victorian era may not be obliterated as has so often been the case in the history of the world, when ancient types of civilization have completely disappeared. Now, hon. gentlemen, I will read to you, so as to embody in this debate, the letters that have been addressed by Mr. Monk to the Marquis of Salisbury, and to which I have already referred. They are, I think, worthy of consideration.

Several hon. MEMBERS—Dispense! Dispense!

Hon. Mr. POWER—I think that is a chestnut.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (B.C.)—This is too much.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—They are worthy of being perpetuated in the annals of our legislation.

Hon. Mr. DEVER—Better not—dispense!

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—These are open letters to Lord Salisbury, and as such, they are political documents. Although written by a private individual, it does not make any difference. They are ideas that are worthy of consideration, and as such, are worthy of a place in our Debates. Let