

incentives to the settlement of this country is the rapid construction of railway lines throughout its farming lands: (Applause.) It is quite impossible that we can expect people will come into this country and settle amongst us unless they are to be provided with those means of communication which so largely and admirably exist to the south of us. That country, the United States, has shown a most wonderful and unmistakeable energy in settling their western country, much of which now teems with happy populations. It is our lot to emulate them or, at any rate, to follow in the steps which they have shown us ought to be followed, and I am glad to see the Canadian Pacific Railway Company are doing what is required with an energy which I know exists, and must and will carry out to a successful issue the measures which are necessary to make this country a great and happy agricultural community. (Cheers.) I believe it would be interesting to us, and I know it is the desire of His Excellency, to hear what the C. P. R. have done and what they are about to do in order to accomplish the results which I am quite satisfied will follow from their efforts, and I trust, therefore, that I shall not be considered as going beyond the list of toasts which were placed in my hands if I ask you to drink an additional one, and thus give us an opportunity of hearing from our friend Mr. Donald A. Smith, one of the directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, some account of what we have done and intend to do in order to aid the operations of the Government and other parties in filling up this great country. I therefore ask you to join me in drinking prosperity to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, coupling it with the name of the Hon. Donald A. Smith. (Great cheering.)

The toast having been enthusiastically drunk,

the Pacific
Railway and
its construc-
tion.

HON. D. A. SMITH, on rising, was received with long continued applause. He said: MR. CHAIRMAN, YOUR EXCELLENCY AND GENTLEMEN,—On behalf of the Pacific Railway Company and of my colleagues in the direction of that corporation, I beg to thank you for the very cordial mention now made with respect to it. I had hoped on coming to this very pleasant meeting this evening that one of the gentlemen more immediately connected with the administration here of the affairs of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company would have responded to this toast. I communicated with one and the other, but found it was their desire also, that I should make any few observations to be made here now. You will all understand—for I speak now before gentlemen who are not only amongst the most intelligent to be found in this community, which is a more than ordinary intelligent one, but who are also men of business habits, and who know how business affairs ought to be conducted, and it is hardly necessary for me to say before them that in the initiation of such a large scheme, I think I may call it a vast undertaking, as that of constructing a railway to the Pacific there were a good many difficulties to be overcome, but having undertaken the work my friends