

of the wolf, unless the Legislature is stirred up to attend to it at once. This vast and important tract of land will not be settled, perhaps for ages, unless facilities such as a railroad offers are afforded for transportation. It will not cost the country a farthing of ready money, nor the members of the House any greater amount of intellectual labour than that which is required in prosy debate over a short Bill. This is a matter of first importance in view of the increase of population and the settlement of the country, and deserving of the most serious and careful consideration of the Legislature and the Government."

I now close for the present my feeble efforts to agitate the great question of the *Highway of the World* passing through British America, with the fond hope that some Goliath in enterprise may seize the mighty project with an iron grasp, and bring it before the British public, and the Provinces of North America, in such an unquestionable shape, as to convince every individual interested in the mammoth scheme, of the practicability to accomplish, and the necessity of immediately commencing the stupendous undertaking, which would raise the British North American continent to an unprecedented height in the scale of the commerce of the world, and cement the bonds of union between Great Bri-

tain and her colonies, by the indissoluble rivets of reciprocal interest. It is the interest of the colonies to be under the wings of that powerful navy, which would enable them to extend their commerce to every clime. It is the interest of Great Britain to have a short and permanent highway through her own colonies to her distant possessions. This most desirable object commenced, and a Federal Union of the Provinces, with a representation in the Imperial Parliament, and the Lilliputian cry of *annexation* would be scattered to the four winds. British North America would become England's right arm, and the brightest and most precious jewel in Victoria's crown, and would be in reality, in every sense of the word, an integral part of the British Empire. And what would consummate the whole, would be a firm and friendly alliance of Great Britain and the United States of America. Then arts, science, literature, civilization, colonization, and commerce would have an open field before them, and the Anglo-Saxon race become the umpires of the globe.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. W. PLAYFAIR.

*Bathurst, C. W., Nov. 16, 1852.*