

rate, for years to come. The country has been devastated as Western Germany was devastated by Marshall Turenne over two hundred years ago.

The British government are proposing to organize a system of state-aided emigration to South Africa. Protests have been made against this in various colonies. The Toronto 'Globe' had an article last summer, in which it said that it was a poor return for the sacrifices which Canada and the other colonies had made for England to find England helping with her mighty influence and capital the settlement of South Africa at the expense of the other colonies. I do not know what has been the result of these protests. I hope that before the session is over the government will announce that they have protested most strongly against such a project; and when it is stated that the British government and the local authorities in South Africa are going to try to retain as settlers in South Africa our young men who have gone there, at the expense of Canada, to fight the battles of the empire, surely we are not going to make matters easier by establishing a direct line of steamships from Canada to South Africa. It is not my purpose to discuss that question to-day; but even if it was good policy for Canada to engage in the war in South Africa, surely there is not a man in this House who will assert that it is a proper policy for the Canadian government and parliament to help the British authorities to settle South Africa at the expense of this country.

This naturally brings me to the charge that was made against the government by the hon. leader of the opposition and his deputy, the hon. member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk) for not having mentioned in the Speech from the Throne the sending of the third contingent to South Africa.

I shall not discuss that question this afternoon, for I think it is of sufficient importance to form the subject of special debate and I intend moving later on for all the correspondence relating on the matter. But I wish merely to observe that my hon. friend (Mr. Borden) and the hon. member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk) are not in a position to arraign the government for not having announced this policy as a government measure, in the Speech from the Throne. When the policy was inaugurated, when the principle was laid down, that the Canadian government should commit itself and future governments to the participation of Canada in British wars, the two hon. gentlemen were the first to rise and unite with the government in the attempt to crush those few members who claimed for the Canadian parliament the right of independence and self control. Therefore the right to condemn the government for its action in this connection rests only with those few men who voted to proclaim that the independence of the Canadian parliament was para-

mount to Cecil Rhodes' South African scheme.

Before I leave this question I wish to make a reply to the right hon. First Minister, which I was debarred from making last session as the right hon. gentleman spoke after me. My right hon. friend taunted me last year, and repeated his taunt this session, that I had asked the Canadian parliament to blame the administration for not having prevented young Canadians going to fight in South Africa. Sir, I am too great a lover of liberty to have ever made such a proposition. I never asked this parliament to entertain for a moment the idea of preventing any body going to fight in South Africa or elsewhere. But there is an immense difference between preventing young Canadians going to fight in South Africa and allowing the British government to do in Canada, what they never before attempted to do, even when we were but a Crown colony. What I objected to last session, and what I shall always object to, as long as I represent any portion of the Canadian people, is that Canada should be made a recruiting ground for the British army. In taking this ground I was supported last year by such loyal organs as the Montreal 'Witness' and the Toronto 'Star.' These organs took this position, that while England, whenever she wanted men to fight her battles, should be allowed to obtain them freely in Canada, the British authorities should not be led to entertain the hope of making Canada a recruiting ground and coming here to get recruits which they could not obtain at home. The sending of the last contingent was not merely helping a few young men to go and fight in South Africa, but it was the beginning of a regular system of recruiting in this country for the British army—a system taken up four years ago by the British government, announced in the British Houses of parliament every year during the four last sessions, and the subject of correspondence between the British and Canadian governments during all that time,—if we are to credit the declarations made by British authorities in the parliament of Great Britain. On the merits of the war, I shall not say anything at present. But I wish to tender my sincere thanks to my hon. friend from East York (Mr. Maclean) for having at last sounded the true note on that question. The right hon. Prime Minister has told us that this is a war for justice and liberty. The Liberals in England say it is a war of conquest and subjugation.

Mr. FLINT. No.

Mr. BOURASSA. Yes, except a very small handful of them.

Mr. FLINT. Only a few cranks say so.

Mr. BOURASSA. That is a matter of appreciation. My hon. friend says a few cranks. Well, they comprise men such as Mr. Bryce, the Right Hon. John Morley, Sir