

hear). With regard to the proposed guarantee to the International Railway from Halifax and Nova Scotia to Canada, he was strongly in favour of that railway, believing that it would be of great advantage to Imperial as well as colonial interests. But the proposal of the Duke of Newcastle was that the colonies themselves should pay the whole cost. His Grace certainly proposed that the guarantee of the Imperial Government should be given to a certain amount of the cost, but the colonies themselves were expected to pay the interest upon the whole cost. As to Canada, he might here mention that the Imperial Government gave a guarantee of 1,500,000*l.* sterling for Canada sixteen or seventeen years ago, for the purpose of enabling her to complete her canals. From that day to this there has never been sixpence advanced or paid by the Imperial Exchequer. The whole amount had been raised by Canada three years ago, and it was now in the hands of the British Government to be paid as the bonds fell due. This was the way Canada met her obligations; and if it was the interest of Canada to undertake further responsibilities, they would be met in an equally honourable and straightforward way. Canada, however, thought that her interests might have been better protected in the matter of the subsidies to the ocean steamers. Upwards of 180,000*l.* a year was paid to the Cunard line. The effect was to reduce the cost of goods sent by that route to that extent, thus taking Canadian trade away and enabling the Americans to build their railways and improve their communications. The necessity of having direct communication between the St. Lawrence and England compelled Canada to pay 80,000*l.* a year for the purpose of maintaining her intercourse with this country, when she need not have paid anything if Canadian interests had been properly consulted at home. Under these circumstances, he hoped gentlemen would believe that he had visited Manchester from a sincere desire to remove misapprehensions as to the feeling and the policy of Canada; and though he was sorry at the tone of Mr. Ashworth's remarks, he must say that it was much better that Mr. Ashworth should have made his statements there where he (Mr. Galt) had an opportunity in his presence of answering them, than that they should have been made where they could not be answered (hear). What was wanted was frank and free discussion, and, with Mr. Ross, he believed the result would be the removal of those differences which were often so injurious to harmony (hear). All he would add was—Let the experiment of self-government in Canada be worked out to its legitimate conclusion. If that conclusion was that it would be better to separate, so be it; they could then separate without any danger of heart-burnings or animosity. But if the conclusion favoured those who believed in the