

granted, even if Germany is beaten. Then Germany has the Balkan States, and there is no doubt that she has won great territory. But in the language of Joseph Chamberlain, are we down-hearted? Not a bit of it, because history teaches us that we must pass through at least two years of muddling in a great war before the tide turns in our favour. Those of us who read history know that in the war between the Parliament under Cromwell and the King that at the end of two years Pym was dead, Hampden was killed and all the great leaders of Parliament of that day were either dead or killed. Very few besides Cromwell and Milton were left, but the tide turned at the end of two years, and then there came great victories which won the parliamentary liberties that we now enjoy and cherish. Take the Seven Years' War. During the first two years of that war on the continent of Europe the battle of Kolin was lost. There was also the convention of Closterseven, the loss of Minorca, the defeat of Braddock, the fall of Fort Necessity. It looked as if the end were near. The French had everything. Then the great Pitt came and there was victory from which Great Britain emerged stronger than she had ever been before. She secured the Spanish and French colonies, among them Canada, and for the first time obtained absolute command of the seas. Reverting for a moment to Cromwell, I may recall that at that time were passed the Navigation Laws, and to-day they are reading the preamble of those navigation laws in the House of Commons in England, and wondering why they ever gave them up. Adam Smith says they were the wisest piece of legislation ever enacted.

Again, take the Napoleonic wars. The first two years secured for Britain the command of the sea, but there was mutiny at home and in many cases defeat abroad, the same as had happened in the previous wars. Pitt the Younger succeeded in getting command of the sea, cabinet after cabinet was formed, and coalition government after coalition framed by that great statesman, to the end that the country might succeed. Nevertheless, history shows that during the first two years nothing was done apart from securing the command of the seas. Then the tide turned and victories came. Need I make any further reference to history? The tide is turning now so far as we are concerned. It has turned in Asia. The Russians have captured the great city of Erzerum, and

[Mr. Currie.]

the keys of Constantinople are always on the south side of the Bosphorus. They have always been there, and the Allies should be thundering at the gates of the city of the Turks before many months have elapsed.

So far as we are concerned, the fight has to be finished on the western front, and Canada must be there. We must have arms, we must have men, but in the meantime we must not hesitate to establish great arsenals here to manufacture rifles, guns and munitions. We will need them all. It is a great mistake for us to spend our money abroad; it is a great mistake for the Empire to send its money abroad for munitions. There would have been no question at all as to the value of the English pound if everything possible had been done to bring about the manufacture of munitions in Britain or in the Empire. Why, the German guns that fired shells at my soldiers and myself day after day in Flanders, were made out of Canadian nickel and chrome steel. The rifles that fired at us had barrels that were made out of Canadian nickel steel. Every one of them was stamped "nickel steel," but they should have borne the motto "mined in Canada." This country has virtually the monopoly of nickel in the world. The French own New Caledonia, where there is nickel, but we are the only people in the world that have chrome ore in large quantities at the present time. There are loads of it in the province of Quebec, and it requires chrome and nickel to make the best electrical steel. The best guns that are being used in this war are not those of Krupps, but those of France and Austria, and the reason why they are the best is that the steel of which they are made is chrome nickel steel made by an electrical furnace. We have all the electricity we need in this country; we have the nickel, and the chrome, and therefore we should go into the manufacture of arms and munitions on a large scale. The result would be that large amounts of money would be made in this country, and Canada would become great and prosperous.

As I have said before, when this war is over, we should see to it that we have made it pay, the same as Pitt made war pay. I think the consensus of opinion in this House of Commons is that everything must be done to bring about that happy state of things. After the war broke out possibly 75 per cent of the factories in England were closed and the people were walk-