

if it should be required, towards the expense of obtaining a survey, exploration, and estimate of the proposed line of canal between the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, if Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Canada make proportionable advances for the same object.—As this matter must come before the Canadian Legislature, we copy the following statement respecting it. Titus Smith, a resident of Nova Scotia since 1783, says the country is low and flat, no part above 25 feet above the level of high tide in the Bay of Fundy, and well adapted either for a canal or railroad. R. Brown, Esq., Mining Engineer, gives similar testimony, adding that the mouth of the canal in the Bay Verte would require protection by a breakwater. Wm. Mackay, Land Surveyor, surveyed the country between the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of St. Lawrence; it has no high hills; is swampy all the way through; two or three locks besides the tide locks would be sufficient. The top of the surface is sand for two feet; there is clay underneath, which is favourable to the object. The distance is about 15 miles; the Tidnish river on the Bay Verte side would be available for three miles. The water in this Bay is shallow at low water for two miles, except the channel, which is about four feet water at the mouth of the river and bar. The fall of the tide is about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet. Good shelter on entering the river. Vessels of 250 or 300 tons would be able to pass the canal without difficulty. No obstacle to such a canal being formed. The object of it is to connect the trade of Halifax and New Brunswick with the St. Lawrence, and also Prince Edward Island with them.

A more favourable location for a canal or railroad could not have been selected; and when the Shubenacadie canal, connecting Halifax with the Bay of Fundy, shall be completed, (and from £80,000 to £100,000 have been already expended on it, by which all the heavy work, including locks and cuttings, is far advanced,) there will then, supposing the Bay Verte canal finished, be a safe and commodious navigation from Halifax through the Bay of Fundy to the St. Lawrence, always important, and in time of war of incalculable benefit.

The Imperial Parliament assembled on the 26th of January, and the session was opened by Her Majesty in person with the following

## S P E E C H :

### *My Lords and Gentlemen:*

I have the satisfaction to receive from foreign powers assurances of their friendly disposition, and of their earnest desire to maintain peace.

The posture of affairs in the Levant had long been a cause of uneasiness and a source of danger to the general tranquillity. With a view to avert the evils which a continuance of that state of things was calculated to occasion, I concluded with the Emperor of Austria, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of Russia, and the Sultan, a convention intended to effect a pacification of the Levant, to maintain the integrity and independence of the Ottoman empire, and thereby to afford additional security to the peace of Europe.

I have given directions that this convention shall be laid before you.

I rejoice to be able to inform you that the measures which have been adopted in execution of these engagements have been attended with signal success; and I trust that the objects which the contracting parties had in view are on the eve of being completely accomplished.

In the course of these transactions my naval forces have co-operated with those of the Emperor of Austria, and with the land and sea forces of the Sultan, and have displayed upon all occasions their accustomed gallantry and skill.

Having deemed it necessary to send to the coast of China a naval and military force, to demand reparation and redress for injuries inflicted upon some of my subjects by the officers of the Emperor of China, and for indignities offered to an agent of my Crown, I at the same time appointed plenipotentiaries to treat upon these matters with the Chinese government.

The plenipotentiaries were, by the last accounts, in negotiation with the government of China; and it will be a source of much gratification to me if that government shall be induced, by its own sense of justice, to bring these matters to a speedy settlement by an amicable arrangement.

Serious differences have arisen between Spain and Portugal about the execution of a treaty concluded by those powers in 1835, for regulating the navigation of the Douro. But both parties have accepted my mediation, and I hope to be able to effect a reconciliation between them upon terms honourable to both.

I have concluded with the Argentine Republic, and with the Republic of Hayti, treaties for the suppression of the slave trade, which I have directed to be laid before you.

### *Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

I have directed the estimates for the year to be laid before you.

However sensible of the importance of adhering to the principles of economy, I feel it to