

of England last year was far beyond the trade of any previous year. Their manufacturers are simply overwhelmed with work. Times were never so good as they are now, and their foreign trade is growing by millions every month. The treasury is overflowing, and as the hon. gentleman from Delorimier (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) said so well yesterday, in the last seven years, after providing for all the increased expenditure in building ships, giving old age pensions, providing insurance for those out of work, and for all the necessities of the government, they have been reducing their debts by about \$60,000,000 every year. Are they hard up? What would twenty-five or thirty million dollars be to them? A nickel in the slot. They do not require it. It is not going to accomplish the purpose; but if we were to build a navy in Canada it would be a different proposition. By the way, when are we going to start the construction of that navy? Are we never going to commence? Are we to contribute \$30,000,000 this year, \$30,000,000 next year and so on? How much better it would be to start on a small scale and, as our population and wealth increased, gradually increase our appliances, so that we could defend our coasts. We do defend our coasts on land, why should we not defend them on the sea? We have a tremendously extended line in British Columbia and on the Atlantic coast. We have a considerable amount of commerce now, and I think it is our bounden duty to construct a navy. By so doing we will benefit England far more than by simply making a contribution. I hope the hon. leader of the government, able and popular as he is, will be able to exert an influence on his colleagues to bring these measures down, as they should be brought down, on constitutional lines, and they will receive the best support of the people.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—Coming from the maritime provinces I feel that I should have something to say on this address. Of course the address is only the ordinary sparring between the two parties, one saying nothing and the other having nothing to take up. The government are not showing their hands, they are drawing the

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL.

opinion of the House and getting some idea of what the public will say. We are talking to the public not only here in Canada but to the public in England. We have talked a good deal of our loyalty and England says 'will you fight?' We are descendants of many nations, and are starting a new race in Canada, taking our part in the administration of a great empire, an empire that has always been able to hold its own against everybody. At the beginning of last century the mother country was fighting most of the nations of Europe, as well as the United States, at a time when England had about twelve millions of people. Ireland was fighting with her, but Ireland was always ready to get a crack at England if she could not get any one else to fight.

I do not intend to discuss the question of reciprocity. The people have decided that. I favoured it, but the majority of the people said they did not want it. As for the West India trade we all know that it is advisable to build it up, but that is a matter of detail as between the merchants of this country and the merchants of the West Indies. There is no politics in that. I am not in a position to discuss the Hudson Bay route; I do not know anything about it.

I think the salient point before us to-day is what we are going to do about this navy, whether we will stand up as Canadians and put a land mark in history before the people of this country and those who are coming after us. The English people and the whole world will judge us as Canadians by what we shall do in this matter. It makes no difference to me which party is in power. I want to see Canada administered in the best interests of this country and of the empire. Now, what is best to be done under the circumstances? I do not approve of giving money to England. I do not think it will go down with the people, because they will say we are only borrowing it from England in order to give it back to them. Of course we will have to pay interest on the money and the people will want to know what we are giving for that interest. The money will not be spent in Canada. As I have said, England was fighting most of the continent of Europe and the United States when she had only