

Thus in manufactures we shall have little chance with them. But this is but one phase of the commercial view. I have heard lectures on this subject, and as I have heard them talk about free trade with Canada, I have asked myself are these people such fools as to get to know that if Canada wants to get coal from Eictou they are as free to do it as they can possibly be. People forget that there is perfect free trade between us and Canada. This cry about free trade is not the reason why Confederation is wanted, but an hon. member of the Canadian Legislature has explained the whole matter, when he alleged as one of the advantages of Union to Canada, that they would be able to say to the States, we will not only close the St. Lawrence against you, but prevent you from sending down your flour and beef and pork to St. John, and the other ports of the Lower Provinces, unless you come to our terms. Are we thus to be made the cats-paw for Canada? are we to be mere make-weights between Canada and the United States? Are we to have all these articles shut out from us just that Canada may make us consume her corn and pork at immensely higher prices? Great Britain makes treaties with the United States, but she always asks our opinion about them, and whether they will affect us. When the Reciprocity Treaty was signed, Parliament was called together to deliberate on it, but here we are to have no voice at all. Just think of our 15 men standing up among the 194; suppose they all stand together for their rights, and against a great wrong. I think I hear the Canadians saying, "you came into this great union of your own free will, you have reaped the advantages of the alliance, and now when difficulties come you must bear them or do the best you can." It is said that union is strength, and we had it illustrated in different ways down in St. John at the last elections, but I think we already have a union that is strong enough; we are united to Great Britain, and I do not think they desire to sever the band that unites us. Look at the map and see how New Brunswick and Canada run up round the State of Maine like an ox bow; for some distance the strip of land is not more than twenty miles wide, and is the bond that binds us to Canada, a link that an American troop of dragons could snap in a day; and to defend that place or any other there would be no more difficulty in turning out an available force at the request of Great Britain, than by a command from Ottawa. One remark about the delegation to England; all delegations in the past have been subject to ridicule, and I suppose that others will be, but my hon. friend is the first of his party who I have heard admit, for one moment, that the country has decided on the question of Confederation finally and conclusively.

MR. McMILLAN.—I said the resolution says the country has decided on it.

HON. MR. ANGLIN.—Do you deny that the question is decided on conclusively?

MR. McMILLAN.—I simply said that the resolution states that the country has decided on it.

HON. MR. ANGLIN.—Well, if there is to be quibbling let it pass. The *Times*, a paper not easy to control, states that in this Province there was only a majority of 455 against Confederation. We, Mr. Chairman, could not get such a statement inserted, and much less could we get it made the basis of a lead-

ing article, yet influences are at work to bring this about, and the *Saturday Review* reiterates the same falsehood and calumny; when in the County of York alone there are over 900 majority against it. Does this mean nothing? Is it not done for some sinister purpose? When I see Mr. Cartier stating at Fishmonger's Hall that they had come to induce the people of England to carry out that scheme, I think it is time we did something to counteract such scheming and falsehood. The *Times* says again, that these gentlemen from Canada went down to Halifax and were received by every demonstration of respect, and that several influential gentlemen from New Brunswick were also there to receive them. I say that is false. When I see Mr. Cartier, after an interview with Lord Palmerston, stating that all is going on well, I think it is time we were heard in Downing Street too. I do not wish to say that the feeling or desire to coerce us into this scheme is felt by any in this House, but when I hear an honorable member say that Confederation is gaining ground, and that it may be carried in six months; and when I hear another gentleman in the other branch say that the reason why Confederation failed was on account of the sins of the late Government, and was never properly tested; I say, when I hear this, I swear these hon. gentlemen that they are playing into the hands of the greatest conspirators against the prosperity and happiness of this Province.

House adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

J. M.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1.

MR. COSTIGAN.—It has been stated by the hon. member from Restigouche (Mr. McMillan) that the more the people became acquainted with this Confederation Scheme the better they would like it. Now, if the Government really thought it was a good Scheme they should not have been afraid of having it discussed. Whatever the intention of the Government may have been, the facts show they did not want the people to become acquainted with the Scheme. If that had not been the case they could have brought it up before the House, and then referred it to the country at the general election; people then could have all the information to be derived from the correspondence with the additional information which they would have gained by the question being debated on the floor of the House. This would have put the matter in a fair light; but I believe the Government did not have confidence enough in it themselves to bring it before the House, for they did not think they could carry it through. If the Government had been really strong, they would have been more cautious, but they were growing weaker every day, and unless something was done they would go over board. They thought this was a chance to keep them in a position they were anxious to retain. If they allowed the House of Assembly to meet again, they did not see how they could fight their way through the Session. In order to retain their power they took up this Scheme, and they thought it might place them in a higher position than before. There was always a bait held out to every man of influence; to induce him to support the Scheme. A great deal has been said about the position we would occupy in the general Government. I have always contended that it would be dangerous to place ourselves in the hands

of the Confederacy. Some will say this is a narrow minded view, and we ought not to be afraid, for we would have even-handed justice. I read in a Canadian newspaper the opinion of a leading man in that country on a Union of the Maritime Provinces before this Scheme was brought up. He said in case a Union of the Maritime Provinces took place, Nova Scotia would absorb the influence of New Brunswick. If that would be the case in this smaller union, how much more would this influence be absorbed in this greater majority of this grand Union? Is it reasonable to suppose that a better feeling will exist between New Brunswick and Canada than among the people of New Brunswick themselves? I remember when a Bill was brought in to increase the representation of certain Counties, there was a strong feeling in the House to support it, because it had especial reference to the County of Carleton, as it was thought it ought to be entitled to one additional representative. When the vote was taken on that question, the principle part of the members of the North were against it. That feeling of antagonism has always existed between the two sections of the Province, and they are afraid to extend the power on either side. In view of this, are we prepared to give an overwhelming majority to Upper Canada and trust to their liberality in dealing with us? In regard to trade, when we are able to stock our own market, it will be time enough to look forward to increase the market. That time has hardly arrived. In reading a statement made in regard to the results of the election, and the votes for and against the Scheme, I have to state that statement does not show the whole of the anti-Confederate vote in the Province. I think it is due to myself, as well as to the constituency of the County of Victoria to state that there was not one vote polled for Confederation in that County.

HON. MR. HATHEWAY.—I will be very brief, inasmuch as I am almost afraid to speak upon any subject, because every advantage is taken of any remarks which I make. I can state my reasons for opposing Confederation without casting any more reflection on any gentleman who may differ from me in opinion than is absolutely necessary in my own defence. At the last Session of the Legislature resolutions were brought in by the Provincial Secretary seeking for a Union of the Maritime Provinces. It was distinctly stated here that the Provincial Secretary asked for no further authority than to go to Prince Edward Island and meet the delegates from Nova Scotia, and they had no authority to enter into any negotiations, for the matter was to be submitted to the House. I little expected when we consented to the appointment of that delegation that a minority of the Executive Council would have gone to Canada and agreed to a proposition to unite these Colonies. I take the broad ground and put it forth without fear of contradiction, that when that Conference met at Quebec, there could be no doubt, from the language used by the delegates, that it was to be adjudicated upon by the late Legislature. If the Government, of which I was a member, had been sufficiently strong to have carried that measure through the House they would have done so. It has been said that I had foresight enough to see what would be the result of the election, but I assert and can prove that six hours after I saw the resolutions of the Conference, I took a strong objection to them.