

on the floors together before, and then I spoke of his laying sacrilegious hands on King's College. When he made the remark that something must be done, it put me in mind of a story (which I related to the House) of three boys. They were named respectively, Charles, James, and John. These boys were out in the fields together when a heavy rain storm came on, and they took refuge under a tree. Whilst standing there the tree was struck by lightning and overturned, the roots tearing up the ground all round, and got the boys into a bad scrape. Charles turns round to James and asks, "Can you pray?" "No." "John can you pray?" "No." "Well, by bokey something must be done." The honorable member says, that the Government was formed on the principle of Federation, then why does he look for any measures from them. But I always thought this Government was formed on Anti-Confederation principles. If they are not, they can't have my support. Confederation was not dead when I was elected, but it received its death blow at my election. (Laughter.) I am glad that reference is made to this subject in the Speech, and that the report of the delegates is to be laid on the table. I hope when it is brought in and laid there, no hard will be raised to disturb its everlasting repose. Reference has been made to the remarks made by hon. members in their canvass, and on the hustings; I think this unnecessary, as almost any man in the heat of a political contest, will say something or other that he can't sustain afterward. That scheme was replete with financial destruction, and political ruin to this country. When I heard that \$2.75 was put forth as the probable tax per capita, I said the manner of arriving at it was not honest—it was a political trick. It was made up on the whole population. Now, the \$50,000 inhabitants of this country don't pay taxes, but only about 71,000, and if the rate were made up in this way, it would give some \$12.90 per head. The city of Fredericton is taxed some \$40,000 a year; the population is 6,000. Now, I know very well that if you divide the ten by six you get one and something over, but \$1 and something over is not the tax the people pay. No, that would be on men, women, children, and babies, and they don't do anything towards the revenue that I know of, unless they do in Carleton.

Mr. LINDSAY.—"Don't they wear clothes?"

Mr. NEEDHAM.—Yes, when they've got them. My honorable friend, Mr. Connell, says that three-fourths of this people are in favour of Confederation. I tell him it is not the case. It is my opinion that there are not three-quarters of Carleton, nor a half, nor a third, in its favor.

Mr. CONNELL.—How do you know?

Mr. NEEDHAM.—Because I believe what the people tell me I believe if the subject were submitted to the County, the ballot boxes set up every few miles, and the people provided with ballots—Confederation—No Confederation—the result would be that not one-third of this country would be in favor of it. It was a scheme concocted in Canada to suit their own locality. They may have been actuated, as it was stated, by desires for fair dealing with us, but what honesty is there in saying, if you give us all your revenue be it what may, we will give you \$250,000 out of it for yourself as long as you live. The good old Judge Marshall of Nova Scotia has shown that in fifty years this arrangement would have swamped the whole of us. What would

have become of us if the scheme had been carried. Where would we have got the fifteen members to go in the general government? Who among us could compete with the members up in Canada. In forty years our revenue would have been \$4,000,000, and we should have got some \$201,000 for our own use whilst the balance would have gone to them. No man is worthy the name of a statesman who legislates merely for to-day. He should look into and provide for the future, for if he don't live for ever, somebody else will. I have said the scheme possessed the germs of political destruction, and so it does. The only link that now binds us to the mother country is the appointment of His Excellency as our Governor. Judge Halliburton may say in England that the people of New Brunswick are disloyal, but who believes it? I wish I had Sam Slick here. This link that binds us to England was to have been broken and our Governor was to be appointed and sent down from that place up there in *Shogomoc*. (A member.—"Ottawa.") Yes Ottawa. The cat was then let out of the bag, but there was not a white hair on it, not even on the tip of her tail. They talk about my being noticed in the papers, well that's good: for you know that's an honor anyway (laughter). The delegates went to Prince Edward Island and met. Now I hold that notwithstanding His Excellency, by the advice of the Governor General, appointed delegates to meet other delegates, yet he had no right to sanction their acts. The Canadians were just arranging for a Union of Upper and Lower Canada, and hearing of the proposed Legislative Union down here, came down, broke up our Convention, and got themselves all re-appointed to meet again in Canada. Now this was right enough as long as they only met to deliberate, but they had no right to draw up a protocol, such as they did. When they got back here they found it necessary to go round the country and stir up the people. It put me in mind of one of *Æsop's* fables. A certain animal, called a monkey went out on a little travelling expedition, (I don't know whether he went to Quebec or not,) but one thing is certain, by some means or other he got back without a very important appendage. Of course the other monkeys came round to see such a strange sight, and so to get them all into the same fix as himself, he told them that was the fashion where he came from, and advised them to follow his example. It was just so with the delegates. They went to Quebec, lost their tails, and on coming back wanted us all to cut off ours. The hon. member for Carleton County says if the young men are going away; so they are here. Some time ago there were some seven or eight who started off to join the war because they thought they could make more by going than by staying here. That's right enough. It is the case everywhere, but that is not a good place to live in. People take the notion of going away from a place. I know a whole lot who went off to *Saskatchewan* to the Mormons. Did the country suffer by that? No; because it saved us the trouble of putting them in a lunatic asylum, and the expense of supporting them there. The honorable member says he knows all about the Post Office. There is no doubt of it. He says he did things without consulting with his colleagues in the Government, and I believe him. The honorable member now asks the Hon. Surveyor General to make a visit up to his part of the country. Well if he can't go, there is one thing he can do, get himself

photographed and send his picture. Perhaps that would do as well? Now I am not in the Government, I haven't been and I don't intend to be—till the time comes. But this principle laid down by the honorable member for Carleton of doing things without the consent of his colleagues is a new one to me. Since the creation of the office of Post Master General there has been an annual deficiency of about \$20,000.

Mr. CONNELL.—What was it before?

Mr. NEEDHAM.—It never amounted to that sum before. I believe the Post Office department was conducted just as well under the old regime as now.

AFTERNOON SESSION—2.30 P.M.

Mr. WILLISTON read a further report from the Contingent Committee, recommending that as the House had made provision for the publication of Debates furnished by official reporters, no allowance of money be granted to members of the press representing newspapers; yet, being sensible of the benefit of a diffused information, they recommended that they be provided with such stationery as they may need. One coach had been agreed to for the use of the House, and they further recommended the employment of another by the Sergeant-at-Arms to expedite the business—Received.

THE DEBATE ON THE FIFTH PARAGRAPH RESUMED.

Mr. NEEDHAM.—I agreed with the hon. member for Carleton in his remarks on two President of the United States; but when he came down to the question of defence, I thought he would have used some sound argument on the subject. I think some other plan than that pursued should have been adopted by the Opposition, but with regard to defence, I am of opinion that if this country were able to spend even ten times the amount of the revenues of this Province and of Canada, it would all amount to nothing if we were assailed. The report of Col. Jervois perfectly shows this. With regard to our natural defence—the Militia—when the question comes up I shall express my opinions upon it. I will now say, that if we had a lot of officers well drilled, provided with clothing, guns, and ammunition, it would be better than turning out the whole of the Province, to forget in three hours what they have learned in three days. If a plan of this kind could be arranged, I think that in connection with the volunteer movement and the regular army, it would prove effective; but I believe our best defense is not to talk so much about war. As to war between Great Britain and the United States, we have only to turn to the papers to see the ministers in the British Parliament declaring that the two Governments never stood on a better footing than at present, that should differences arise they could only be settled by arbitration, and diplomacy. We may beat them at that, but we could not by putting the country in a state of defence. I do not want my words to be understood as conveying an idea that we would quietly sit down and submit to invasion. Not at all. I am sure if the time came, the country would rise and join heart and hand to resist the spoiler of our hearths and homes. (A Member.—"We could lick them.") It is all very well to talk about licking, but when the lick comes, perhaps it would be found best to lick licking alone. I agree with my honorable friend that the lumbering interests are becoming useless. I have made up my mind to one thing, and