

Canada say to our members, "We want you to assist us to gain a grant to improve our canals," they will say, "Yes. If you will give us your interest to improve the harbor of Saint John." And so we shall see, in that city large wet and dry docks, for which there is every facility, and then what a prospect opens before that city. Further, the harbors on the North Shore would need deepening, so that ships of a large tonnage could pass up. Canada, therefore, would not get all the money, for we need public works as much as they. Then the movement on the border had convinced even the ex-Attorney General that we should have to spend large amounts to preserve ourselves from invasion. Why, even the late Government brought in and passed a Bill to provide for a navy. Well, just now, that might look very much like the frog and the ox; but if these Provinces were united, it was something we could have without bursting. The ex-Attorney General also said the soldiers were to be removed. But Great Britain has said nothing of the kind. What they have said is that they cannot trust to have their men cut off in detail, as would be done in case of war, but that united, they will give us of their best men and treasure to preserve us. Then the taxation. If we do not have Confederation, we shall have very soon to resort to direct taxation. But before this can be resorted to by the General Government, they will have to put on nearly a dollar per head upon the other Provinces to bring their rate up to what we are now paying. Our revenue is only about \$500,000, and our fixed expenditure over \$700,000, so that for our roads and bridges and other works we should have to tax ourselves directly out of the Union. The Quebec Scheme was not so bad a Scheme after all. There were checks that were not known to exist till carefully looked after. He was willing to send men home untrammelled, and he thought that the love of approbation in man was sufficient to guarantee that they would not do anything that would cause them to be looked upon by their fellow-countrymen with scorn and contempt. He thought that it would be well to have a provision inserted that the members of the Legislative Council should live in the Province they represent. If the \$63,000 bonus for ten years was not generally deemed sufficient, he had no objections to see it increased to \$100,000. He should support the Resolution.

Mr. QUINTON merely rose to declare himself in favor of the Resolution. He was quite willing to entrust the interests of the country in the hands of the delegates that might be appointed, believing, as he did, that they would use every en-

deavor to secure Union on the most advantageous terms.

Mr. SKINNER wished to speak on the question before the House, but had been so occupied with other matters that he was not then prepared, and, therefore, would ask the House to allow him to speak after the hon. member for Westmorland had made his reply to-morrow morning.

Dr. DOW said he should claim a like favor if the request were complied with. He thought it inexpedient to depart from parliamentary usage, and he should object to such a course being taken.

Mr. SKINNER then said the hon. member for York appeared to be very fastidious, and as his request, which he considered a very reasonable one, had not been complied with, he should proceed with a few remarks. Whilst he should vote for the Resolution, he could not but express his dissent from the manner in which this matter had been brought before the House. He could not vote for Mr. Smith's Amendment, because he believed it would be driving a dirk into the very heart of Confederation. He was, therefore, placed in a very awkward position. He did expect that the Government would have brought the question before the House in a more tangible form; that the question would be discussed in all its bearings, and that instructions would be given to the delegates appointed by which their action would be governed. But if this bold Resolution were passed, they, on their return, might say, if the provisions of the plan decided on were not satisfactory, "Why you gave us no instructions." The Government should have come before the House and said, that as they had but lately come from the people, and that as the House knew what the people required, they should instruct them what to do. This would have been dignified, this would have been honorable, and the right way to approach the subject. He was in favor of Confederation; it was as strongly enshrined in his heart as in that of any one, but he did think, in reconsidering the terms of Union, the question should be approached calmly and deliberately. The more time taken in its consideration the better. But from the first there appeared to have been a desire to rush the matter on. When the delegates first met at Prince Edward Island this was manifest, but the question had lost nothing in the support it received by being laid over for fifteen months. It had rather been gaining support remarkably fast. The question was not new to the people. For twenty-five years they had been in favor of Union, but when they found it was contemplated to push the matter through in a hasty manner, the people would not acquiesce, and so the Quebec Scheme

was repudiated. He would tell the hon. members that representation by population was the hardest thing the people had been called upon to submit to. But the evils that arise from this might be overcome by proper checks in the Upper House. Many people who voted for Union in 1864 were opposed to some of the provisions of the Quebec Scheme. And during the late elections he had frequently been charged not to accept the Quebec Scheme without looking into it, and trying to get some modifications. He hoped this point of representation would be met by providing for an equal representation of every Province in the Upper Branch. When the election of 1865 came off a majority of the people were against the Quebec Scheme, and if those who came into power had confined their opposition to that Scheme, and not carried it on against all Union, but had gone on and matured a better plan, they would have obtained better terms. They did not do it, the tide turned, and on the next wave the thirty-three men on the floors of the House in favor of Union were returned. Let them now be very careful that the succeeding wave did not carry them all away, as it would be likely to do if they did not treat the question in a calm and deliberate manner. He thought the question should have been laid before the House for their consideration, and then hon. members would have had an opportunity to speak the convictions of their minds on this great matter. If he could not get Union in broad daylight and openly he would not have it at all. The foundation must be laid and cemented in an open and many way. He would now speak of some of the alterations the delegates should demand. He would, if he could, secure some modification to the provision for representation by population. He feared that this could not be done, but still he would claim it as a right and a benefit to all the Colonies. The Quebec Scheme was started at the time of the war in the United States, before Grant had taken Richmond or Sherman had made his grand march through Georgia to the ocean, when they thought that the Republic was in the throes of dissolution, and consequently it was the negation of all that was found in the American Constitution. There the States have the power, and that power they wield for the general good. But in the Quebec Scheme the General Government take all the power and drizzle it out to the separate States. This was a feature in the Scheme he had always been opposed to. If the delegates had intended to have formed a separate nationality, he could have forgiven them for this, but they did not, neither did the people desire a new flag or the power to make war, to coin money, or any other functions perform-