

of a seat in the Upper House of the General Legislature, therefore they provided that the Legislative Councils of the Federal Parliament should be nominated from the existing Councils. To ensure as much unanimity, also, as possible at the Conference, a clause was thrown in to the effect that due regard should be had to the claims of the members of the Legislative Council of the Opposition in each Province. But this provision will be of little account, for after the divisions which the discussion of the Confederation question has caused, I think it will be difficult to tell how individuals stand with respect to parties. When I saw the drift of the whole action in regard to the constitution of the Legislative Council as it now stands in the Report, I strongly expressed the hope that the delegates would accept this island from such a piece of corruption. Again with respect to our Local Legislature under the Confederation scheme, what would it amount to? We would be a laughing stock to the world. The City Council would be a king to such a Legislature. In this House scarcely anything would be left as to do, but to legislate about dog taxes and the running at large of swine. Some hon. members have referred to the great advantage of this Colony being allowed to retain its local legislature. Probably they intend to remove to Canada themselves, and care little about what they leave behind them. I will now turn to the financial part of the Report. When the Committee on Finance was appointed at the Conference, I was so satisfied that the proposition for a grant of £200,000, sterling, to this Colony would be carried out, that I scarcely gave the appointment any consideration. But, Sir, when the committee reported at the Conference Board, I was struck with amazement, and expressed myself very freely to that effect. At my suggestion it was resolved that the committee should reconsider their scheme. But, Sir, I believe that my objections to the committee's report aroused the delegates from Newfoundland and New Brunswick, for when it was brought in again next morning a subsidy was provided for each of these Colonies, but it did not include any allowance for this Island. Newfoundland received a liberal consideration at the hands of the committee, the sum guaranteed to her being \$150,000 annually. The Report says that this allowance is for the surrender of her mines and minerals and public lands to the General Government; but in reality it was given to that Colony on account of the plea put forth by the Newfoundland delegates that their people were, to a great extent, paupers. The Colonial Secretary informed us at the Town meeting that the grant to Newfoundland was made in consideration of her revenue being nearly wholly derived from customs duties, the relinquishment of which would leave her without any local income. But I ask what are the local revenues of this Island? Would we not be nearly in the same position as Newfoundland if our revenue from duties were given up to the General Government? Then New Brunswick, too, received a consideration to induce her to enter the Union, namely, the respectable sum of \$63,000 a year for ten years. This grant, no doubt, was obtained through the able advocacy of Hon. Mr. Tilley, who was on the committee as finance minister for that Province. And, Sir, I am not much surprised that the £200,000, sterling, was not secured for this Island, since I heard the Colonial Secretary, who acted on the financial committee for this Colony, declare that he considered the terms of the Report just and liberal to Prince Edward Island. When I objected to the report of the financial committee on the ground that no grant was to be given to this Colony, the Hon. George Brown said that more money was already allowed us than we would know what to do with. And no wonder that he said so, when the delegate from this Island, who assisted to draw up the financial arrangement, affirms that it is liberal. I shall next refer to the subject of expenses, and show that our taxation must be greatly increased. Besides having to tax ourselves for local improvements, we will have to bear a share of the expenses of Canada, as she is unable to meet them now, and will be left able to do so under Confederation, for they will be much heavier than at

present. In the matter of defence alone the outlay will be enormous. What says Colonel Jervis's report? I will quote an extract from the *Quebec Chronicle* of March 15, 1860, which, after giving some remarks of the London *Times* on that report, freely admits that Canada is unable to undertake the share of those defences assigned her. The *Chronicle* remarks—

"Turn we now for a brief space to the consideration of that portion of the *Times*' article having reference to the preparation for defence. There is something in it so naïve, and at the same time so thoroughly selfish, that we hardly know whether to be most amused or most contemptible. Speaking of the fortifications which Colonel Jervis's report says are necessary for effectual defence, the *Times* says—

"They are so trifling, indeed. Canada, though with but a small population, has a long frontier; in fact, it may be described as being all frontier, and as being vulnerable all over. There is hardly a village or a farm in the country that is more than a few days' march from some spot which may be reached at once by a party of Federal soldiers. Hence the magnitude of the works, which if executed by the Provinces will be a financial burden to them, and if taken in hand by us will add considerably to our estimates for years to come." Colonel Jervis says that he regards the works for the defence of Montreal and Quebec as being of the most pressing importance. The cost of those at Quebec is to be £200,000, of those at Montreal \$448,000, and the armaments at those places will cost about £100,000. The works of fortification recommended at Kingston, Toronto and Hamilton will cost about £260,000, and the armaments for those places about £100,000. These fortifications for Canada alone it is proposed to expend £1,448,000, which any one acquainted with the history of such matters is well aware will expend at least a couple of millions. Now, of this sum Her Majesty's Government propose to supply £300,000—the amount necessary for fortifying Quebec. This is an "Imperial fortress," it was the scene of one of the most celebrated of English victories, and has so wide a reputation as one of the strong places of the world that the national honor is committed to maintaining it. We have no desire to quarrel with the decision of the Government. Whether the Canadian Government will really spend half a million on fortifying Montreal, as Lord de Grey expects, we very much doubt, for there is a great difference between calling out Volunteers and Militia at a time of excitement, and taxing the community to raise masses of earthworks and put guns in position. If the fortification of Quebec by England be looked upon as part of an arrangement between the Mother Country and the Colony, then we suppose we must submit and pay the £200,000, or whatever more the works may cost. But we cannot affect to say that it will be done with any enthusiasm.

"Any one acquainted with such matters, we are told, well knows that these fortifications will cost two millions sterling. Of this sum the *Times* considers two hundred thousand, or one-fifth, all, and more, than Great Britain's share of the expenditure. And this view of the relative responsibilities forces us to return to the case which necessitates the outlay. Again then, we say, Canada has no quarrel with her powerful neighbor, nor would have but as a dependency, so outlying portion of the British Empire, a weak point, vulnerable and easily assailable. That we are all this is no fault of ours; but says the *Tyler*, "you must take the consequences, you must fortify the weakest points, and England will undertake that which requires the least expenditure." But wherefore must we? Suppose we are not able? How then? And most assuredly we are not. Two millions, less one fifth—£1,800,000 sterling! Something more for armament and militia, and we shall reach perhaps somewhat over the original two millions—a sum as nearly as may be equal to a pound sterling per head of the whole population, or five dollars for every man, woman and child in the Province. Gentlemen of Tooley Street, it can't be done. If Canada wants defending England must defend her."

Now there is the opinion of one of the Canadian newspapers, and that of the London *Times*. About two million pounds sterling will be required for fortifications, and of this sum Great Britain will only provide £200,000, leaving an amount to be raised by Canada, together with the armaments she will have to provide, equal to five dollars per head of her population. This sum would be more than enough; yet it is not all that would be required. In connection with this subject I will read