

men who were five hundred miles away from Canbore, and had never heard of the massacre there, executed without trial or condemnation. I placed the facts before the public then, as I did in the more recent affair in Jamaica, where men have been summarily put to death without one title of evidence against them, and this affair is now being enquired into through a commission appointed by the British Government, through the influence of religious bodies in England. Fortunately for the blacks, they happened to be members of a denomination which is just now very powerful in London; if it was not so, there might never have been a commission appointed. It makes no difference to me whether a man is a Protestant or a Papist. I deal to all the same measure of justice. I would stand up for the Musselman, if offending, as freely as I would stand up for my own countrymen. I am in favor of freedom of speech, and I attempt to find fault with no man who chooses to address his fellow men as he pleases; but there is a limit to freedom of speech. License is not freedom of speech. A man may utter falsehoods, but the people; when they find how they have been deceived, will turn on those men and teach them a lesson which they never will forget.

It is much to be regretted that this Fenian association exists in the United States. We here can do nothing to interfere in any way to lessen its power. There are various opinions in regard to the object of that association. Some people may think they are the greatest scoundrels that ever disgraced the face of the earth; others may consider them mistaken men who, goaded by the remembrance of bitter wrongs, are led into foolish paths. It is hard for anyone who has witnessed the famine of 1848 to speak harshly of them. At that time, hundreds of my countrymen died on the streets of starvation. Day after day they disposed of their property at a sacrifice, to prolong their lives, and when that was gone, they huddled into some back place to starve on a pile of straw, exposed to the pitiless rain and cold winds; and thus, day after day, they pined away until they died, and morning after morning their bodies were thrown into some pit, and often but half covered up. Those who have witnessed such scenes can hardly speak harshly of those men, whatever they may think of their present undertaking. If this body of men should come and attempt to conquer this Province, their project would not only be foolish but most wicked; for these provinces have never given them cause of offence, but have always offered an asylum and a home to their fellow countrymen. No hope of redressing the wrongs of their native country can justify them in invading this Province; and if they did, they would find the Irish people of this Province ready to take the foremost rank to meet and repel such invasion. If there was danger, at the time of the York election, that these parties would come down upon us like wolves in the fold, was that the time to create jealousy in the country, by setting race against race, man against man. Can any man who really values the peace and welfare of his country, think of such proceedings without horror?

I spoke yesterday of an address presented by the Canadians to Her Majesty, asking her to submit to the Imperial Parliament a Bill for a Union of these Provinces, contrary to our expressed wishes.

I did not expect that conduct to be repeated by the members of our Legislative Council to-day. I hold in my hand a document which I think will startle and alarm the people of this Province. I want to speak with respect of the other branch of the Legislature. I presume that in this matter the hon. members of that House have acted as they thought best, and I do not want to question their motives, but they have placed themselves in a most unenviable position. Under the Quebec Scheme, ten of the Legislative Councillors are selected from the small body of eighteen members in the Upper House. This is a large bribe to offer them, for they sit there for life, where, as has been remarked, they can see acres of plaster and miles of cornice. They ought to be careful not to give the people of this country the slightest cause of suspicion that they were influenced by anything of that kind. They are not the representatives of the people of this Province, and they have no authority to speak in their behalf. They, acting without the concurrence of this House, will scarcely be regarded more than a mere aggregation of individuals. Shall it be said that gentlemen selected as they have been, by the Government—by the Crown, representatives of the men appointed to choose them, some of them not representatives at all—shall be heard above the representatives of the people? They have undertaken to address Her Majesty, asking her not simply to give a favorable consideration to Confederation, but boldly asking her to lay a Bill before the Imperial Parliament to sweep away the independence of this Province. I regret it exceedingly on their own behalf, but beyond that I am delighted, as it shows their althums. It shows what they think of the people and the people's rights. The address is as follows:—

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty:
"MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN: We your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly approach your Majesty with the conviction that a union of all your Majesty's British North American Colonies based on the resolutions adopted at the Conference of delegates from these several Colonies, held at Quebec on the 10th day of October, 1864, is an object highly to be desired, essential to their future prosperity and influence, and calculated alike to strengthen and perpetuate the ties which bind them to your gracious Majesty's throne and Government, and humbly pray that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be submitted to the Imperial Parliament for the purpose of thus uniting the Colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island into one Government."

These gentlemen may have acted from the best motives, but they had no right to act in that way, while the representatives of the people were debating the same subject, and in so doing they have insulted the Government. They should not have gone beyond passing a resolution in favor of adopting the scheme and asking the concurrence of the House. That would have been going to the extreme limit of their power and authority, and I think the Imperial Government have too high a regard for constitutional principles to pay the slightest attention

to a document of that kind. They will regard it as an attempt of those men to get possession of those ten seats in the upper House at Ottawa. Should this scheme come before us, we will speak on behalf of the people and say, in this matter the people of the Province are the parties who have a right to speak and determine concerning this matter.

MR. WETMORE.—Will this anti-Confederate Government permit an answer to be given to this address, unless they think proper to take the entire and complete responsibility of it?

MR. ANGLIN.—My hon. friend may put his question to the Government.

MR. GILBERT.—Before my hon. friend concludes his address, I would like to ask him whether he is opposed to all political union with Canada.

MR. ANGLIN.—The hon. member has put a serious question which requires an extended answer. I do not believe at the present time a political union of any kind can be formed with Canada which would be a benefit to the people of this Province. I do not know of any one opposed to union in the abstract, but my impression is that the time has not arrived for any kind of union, and I will oppose it to the last. At present the Provinces are distinct communities with conflicting interests, and the Quebec Scheme does not reconcile them, and the difficulties can only be overcome by sacrificing the Lower Provinces altogether. If any new scheme comes up, it will be for the people to decide upon its merits, and I trust they will retain the power in their own hands to finally settle the destiny of this Province. I will now thank the House for their attention and close my remarks.

The House was adjourned until 10 o'clock Monday morning, the debate to be resumed at 11 A. M.

T. F. D.

MONDAY, APRIL 9.

After the reading of the Journals and the granting of leave to bring in Bills for the incorporation of the Northern Bank, the Miramichi and Richibucto Branch Railway Company, and to amend the Act respecting the widening of Cross Street, St. John.

HON. MR. SMITH rose and stated that circumstances had arisen which compelled him to ask the indulgence of the House, and to adjourn till to-morrow afternoon at three o'clock.

MR. McCLELLAN thought that the reasons should be stated that caused the Attorney General to make such a request. If the circumstances that were mentioned affected in any way the position of the Government, it might be well to adjourn the debate on the want of confidence motion, but this need not in any way affect the general business of the House.

MR. BOYD considered it only fair, just and right to allow the Government the time they asked.

MR. WETMORE said that unless there were reasons assigned by the Government, he did not see why the local business might not be proceeded with.

HON. MR. SMITH did not wish to obstruct the public business, but circumstances had arisen, and his hon. friend from Albert might, at any rate, have a very shrewd suspicion of what they were, to render this action imperative. It