

ed and corrupted everything in the order of morality and political integrity.

The hon. member for Montmorency then proceeded to speak of his present friends, and of the excuses offered by the Ministerial supporters for blindly voting for and approving whatever their friends desired them to vote for. Did an Orangeman demand anything at which their Catholic consciences might take alarm, their consciences were soon quieted by the fact that "it was a friend," and the Orangeman obtained at once what he sought; and the hon. member for Montmorency declared that all this had been done by a power which had soiled and corrupted everything in the order of morality and political integrity. Now, he heartily approves of all that he then held to be abominable and atrocious, so long as it was proposed by his friends. Then he was opposed to Confederation of any kind, because it was a certain means of obliterating the influence of Lower Canada, and he preferred a legislative union to a Confederation. But now his friends propose a Confederation of all the provinces, and he heartily approves of it. I quote again from what he said on the 28th August, 1858:—

During this session Confederation was found to be so unpopular, that Mr. GALT did not dare to ask a vote on his informal resolutions. But hardly had he obtained power and his views were triumphant, and Canada is to bow her head to a new order of things which an instant before had been considered replete with danger and ruin. The policy of the Government as regards Confederation is not more defined or tangible than that of Mr. GALT on the same subject, and yet the men who, two days before, furiously demanded that Messrs. BROWN and DORION should give explicit explanations, accept it with confidence and with closed eyes, doubtless because it came from their friends and friend GALT. Friendship has the power of transforming principles and things, good into evil and evil into good, immorality into morality, injustice into justice, and consciences into inert machines, bending to the movement given to it by the firm hand of friends.

I quote from the paper of the hon. member for Montmorency.—I do not say this myself:—

More than this, the Ministry take upon themselves to make a Constitution for the people, and to change the condition of Canada without consulting them, without taking the trouble even of telling them what they are going to do for them. Not less than four members of the Government, they say, are going to negotiate

our destinies either in Downing-street or in Lombard-street, but most probably in the latter. If Confederation suits the ideas of the Grand Trunk, depend upon it we shall have it, even though the whole of Canada should reject it. The *Journal* asks what will become of the French element in the Confederation. Eh! *grand Dieu*, you may see its fate already in the fact that out of four Ministers sent to negotiate the transformation, not a single one is French, the happy individuals being Messrs. GALT, ROSS, MACDONALD and ROSE.

At that time the enemies, that is to say the present friends of the hon. member, were desirous of changing the Constitution without consulting the people, and he considered that an atrocity; but now they propose to effect a revolution in our political institutions without giving the people an opportunity of pronouncing on their scheme, and the hon. member for Montmorency warmly approves. It seems, when the other day I asserted that this scheme of Confederation was planned by the Grand Trunk Company, that I did but express the opinion of the hon. member for Montmorency. It was he who first made this assertion, and not I. "If the Grand Trunk," said he, "wants Confederation, we are sure to have it." In those days his *friends* the *enemies* desired to sell the country; now he seeks to save it by exactly the same means that they took to ruin it. Now he no longer seeks to ascertain whether the plan of Confederation is good or bad; he only looks to see that it comes from his friends, and that is sufficient to secure for it his hearty approval. This scheme being proposed by the *friends* and supporters of good principles, it cannot contain anything that may endanger the institutions of Lower Canada. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) But formerly it was quite a different matter, when the same scheme was proposed by *enemies*, the present friends of the honorable member for Montmorency. What constitutes the excellence of this scheme in the eyes of the honorable member, is that it is not submitted by *rouges* or annexationists, but by the representatives of good principles, the guardians of the interests of Lower Canada. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Besides, the delegates from the Lower Provinces, whom he had looked upon as enemies to Lower Canada, inspired him with such confidence during the dinners and balls of the Conference, as to have removed any apprehensions under which the honorable member might before have labored. He told us so himself. For my part I do not believe that the communication which the honorable member enjoyed with the delegates from the Lower