

New-Brunswick will say: "Oh we cannot on with this work until the Intercolonial railway is completed, and New Brunswick put in a complete state of defence." Nova Scotia will say: "When the finances permit we will proceed with it;" and all the provinces will unite in saying, when this provision of the Constitution is pointed out to them, "Oh, we don't know what it means." (laughter.) I object to this scheme, sir, on account of the burdens it proposes to place on this country in the shape of defence. (Hear, hear.) We have had glowing accounts from the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries about the territory that will belong to a Confederation. We are told that it will extend for four thousand miles from ocean to ocean; and will it be believed that we in Upper and Lower Canada, with a population less than that of the city of London, will be called upon to defend such a frontier—a frontier, we are told, as great as the continent of Europe? (Hear, hear.) The thing is an anomaly that no country in the world presents except our own. I regard this cession of territory by Confederation as a mark of weakness instead of strength; and my mind the casting of the burden of defence upon this country is like investing a sovereign with all the outward semblance of royalty, and giving him a dollar per day to support the dignity of his court, or like directing the engine of one of the small steamers which ply on the river here from Point Lévis, to propel the *Great Eastern* across the Atlantic. (Hear, hear.) Sir, I am unmindful of the fostering care of the fishery on the fishery over all its colonies. I am unmindful of all that England has done to guard and protect her colonies throughout the world, and to develop their resources. But when we see by the telegraphic reports of to-day that the Imperial Government is about to expend £50,000—or if you omit the correction of the Government, as I did this evening, £200,000—upon the defence of this country, I ask in all seriousness what is that amount for the protection of an exposed frontier such as our's?

HON. MR. BROWN—I do not wish to interrupt my hon. friend; but I must say when he has heard it stated that this £200,000 is to be granted by the Imperial Government simply for the defence of the province of Quebec, I am amazed how he can stand up here and charge the Imperial Government with the intention of giving only that

amount for the defence of the whole country.

HON. MR. DORION—It is distinctly stated in the report of the debate in the House of Lords that that is all the Imperial Government intend to appropriate.

HON. MR. BROWN—I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon, but it is not so stated. I think the hon. gentleman will find that there are now large works going on at Halifax and St. John; and that besides the appropriation for works at Quebec, the question of the amount to be contributed for the defence of Canada elsewhere is still under the consideration of the Imperial Government.

HON. MR. DORION—Oh, no; only the question of the naval defence.

HON. MR. BROWN—Well, the hon. gentleman may not accept the statement I make, but I am quite sure the hon. member for Toronto will, that the question of the defence of this province at Montreal and westward is still under the consideration of the Imperial Government, and at this moment is undecided.

MR. JOHN MACDONALD—Of course, I was aware that the £200,000 proposed to be appropriated were for works at Quebec.

HON. MR. BROWN—The hon. gentleman should not have stated, then, that they were for the defence of the whole of the province.

MR. JOHN MACDONALD—I am free to admit that this was a mistake, and that the amount was for the defences of Quebec.

HON. MR. BROWN—Well, it was very wrong to repeat it.

MR. JOHN MACDONALD—Well, I ask that if the Imperial Government will appropriate only this sum, where, at such a period of imminent danger as the present is said to be, and with every point of the frontier perfectly defenceless, is the money to come from to place all parts of the province in a position to resist aggression, and who is to provide it? The hon. member for Lambton, the other night, in alluding to the ability of this country to raise and maintain a standing army for our protection, instanced the case of Denmark, which he said was able to support an army of 20,000 men. I certainly thought the allusion a most unhappy one, and one would have imagined that the recent history of that country would have prevented its being made. (Hear, hear.) But in regard to all the features in this scheme objectionable to Upper Canada, and adverse to