

been given up in one block. I can give you a good authority on this point, as some gentlemen may take issue with me. Lord Brougham, in his historical sketches of eminent Statesmen, speaking of Sir John Jervis, says: His sagacity no man ever found at fault, while his provident anticipations of future events seemed even beyond the reach of human penetration. He says we shall give a remarkable example of this matter in 1839, in a matter of deep interest at the present moment—(if of deep interest then, the interest is much greater now). When Lord Shelburne's peace (1783) was signed, and before the terms were made public, he sent for the Admiral, and showing them asked his opinion. I like them very well, says he, but there is a great omission. In what? In leaving Canada as a British Province. How could we possibly give it up, inquired Lord Shelburne. "How can you hope to keep it," replied the veteran warrior. With an English republic just established in the sight of Canada, and with a population of a handful of English settled among a body of hereditary Frenchmen, it is impossible; and rely on it, you only retain a running sore, the source of endless disquiet and expense. Would the country bear it? Have you forgotten Wolf and Quebec? asked his Lordship. "Forgotten Wolf and Quebec." No, it is because I remember both, I served with Wolf at Quebec; having lived so long I have had full time to reflection on this matter, and my clear opinion is that if this fair occasion for giving up Canada is neglected—nothing but difficulty in either keeping or resigning it will ever after be known.

It is quite evident that Great Britain has nothing to be proud of in the management of her affairs as respects the arrangement here spoken of. She has had war with the United States and came out of it without accomplishing her objects. Consequently she neither acquired honor nor glory as far as the American people are concerned. Nothing is more probable than that what has been prophesied will occur sooner or later. I have another extract bearing upon the same subject, which I do not think gentlemen will say comes from a disloyal source. Mr. Oliphant, M. P., delivered an address at Stirling on America. In speaking of Republican institutions, he said:—

"To his mind there was no spectacle furnished by the world at this moment so interesting as the 30,000,000 Anglo Saxons working out by hard experience the unworked problems of Republican government. In the first place there was no other race fit to cope with these problems or to understand the principles they embodied, but that to which we and they belong. Although he did not believe in them for this country, he did most devoutly believe in republican institutions for America. As an Englishman he had no sort of objection to the Monroe doctrine and the spread of Anglo-Saxon republics all over the American continent—the more the better. That was the reason he had no particular objection to see the Union divided, provided slavery was abolished, nor did he think it would matter half as much as Americans imagined. Moreover he thought some day or other it must come to that. We shall be quite prepared to see Canada erected into an independent republic, and Australia, when old enough. There is no reason because we were a constitutional monarchy, and well satisfied to remain so, that we should insist upon our Colonies, who had none of the traditions or associations which had made us what we are, adopting monarchical institutions after they left us."

Here is a speech delivered by a member of the British Parliament; he believes in Republics for all America. Look at the geographical position of this continent and consider what seems to be the most natural arrangement. We have thirty millions of people directly before us, in every way more convenient to us than Canada; they are of the same stock, same feelings, as ourselves; they have everything that can make a people great and glorious. If you have to make any political arrangements, let them be consistent and natural. I do not think that the people of Nova Scotia want annexation to the United States; but why should you drive them against their interests and inclinations into a union with Canada—with which they have no natural means of communication, and no sympathy. Why, if our young women were

to attempt to-morrow to go to Canada by way of the States, they would be courted and married before they got half-way there.

I have wondered often when I have heard gentlemen in this Legislature talking of the advantages that will accrue from Union with Canada. A great amount of words has been used on the subject, but I cannot see how our manufactures are to be developed by Union. Just look at the map, and see where our products would have to go. Why before they got there, they would cost so much that the people of Canada could not afford to buy them when they could purchase similar articles, which paid duty at a lower price. We cannot expect to manufacture as largely as Canada. We cannot compete with her, or the great manufacturing countries of the world. If the Provincial Secretary says that a great stimulus will be given to manufactures, I give him credit for thinking otherwise. We have now 350,000 people busily engaged in carrying on all the industrial pursuits that they able to carry on. We know by the statement that has been laid on the table that Nova Scotia owns 400,000 tons of shipping. Consider what an immense amount of labor and money has been expended to create it; but also remember that ten years hence every one of them must be renewed. We own more ships in proportion to our population than any other part of the world, and our experience has shown that they must be renewed as I have stated. This renewal will cost an immense sum of money. We are carrying on a fishery of a most extensive character, which must tax to the utmost the energies of those engaged in it. More vessels have ever been leaving my own county—filled with able bodied men, to endure the privations and labors of a fisherman's life on the Banks. We are largely engaged in Mining and Lumbering, and Trade—Agriculture engrosses the attention of a large proportion of the people. Everybody has his hands full, and yet you say we want more work. We are now one of the greatest manufacturing countries of the world in one great branch; our shipping is a more lucrative source of wealth than any manufactures that can be created by Annexation to Canada.

As to what Mr. Young, Mr. Johnson, or Mr. Howe may have said, it makes little difference now. It is the duty of this Legislature to look at the present circumstances of the country, and provide for its best interests. We should not wander away from the subject immediately before us. This Union question has been tried in British North America and has failed. The Union between Upper and Lower Canada has failed, and now they come asking us to help them out of their difficulties. Mr. Brown formed a coalition with Cartier and Macdonald and they came meet the Maritime Delegates and persuaded them to join in a political Union with Canada. Nova Scotia should pause before injuring herself irremediably for the sake of helping the Canadians out of their political embarrassments. They got into a mess, and now wish to mix us up with it. You have all heard the story about the Spider and the Fly. The Spider told the Fly a "fine story, and got him that way into his mesh, and there was the end of the poor thing." And it was just so with the Canadians. The Maritime Delegates were dazzled, if not by Canadian gold, by fine stories—and thus fell into the net prepared for them. "We give larger salaries to our public men, we are more liberal in our expenditure; we shall have five or six Lieutenant-Governors to appoint—number of other offices to select from; here is your chance." This is the language that was probably used to cajole our delegates. Blasted by the prospect before them, our delegates came back thinking that the people would take their view of matters. All these things make people wonderfully loyal at times. They can hardly bear to hear a whisper about annexation to the United States. Let us hear what Mr. Murdoch says in his history of Nova Scotia about a matter bearing upon this point. At page 448, No. 13., speaking of the excitement in the old American Colonies in reference to the stamp act, he says:—

"That it was not much felt in Nova Scotia, that they were satisfied, for the reason that the great trouble and expense of the Crown to complete the conquests here, and the generous aid to settlements