

would consider an insult to the independence of this people, for we should maintain our independence no matter what our losses may be. If we had been into Confederation, we would have had the Alien Law too, and no Southern refugees would have dared to linger about our streets. Our land would no longer have been an asylum for the unfortunate, and while we shared in the glory of Canada, we should have drunk to the dregs that cup of humiliation. The remark was made during the course of the debate that it was a pity that we had to go as five different Provinces, to negotiate concerning the Reciprocity Treaty. If we could all act as one country, and have our interests in common, how much more influence we would have, and how much better terms we could get. If nothing else would satisfy the people of this Province that they are better off out of Confederation, the proceedings at Washington ought to do so, and we should be glad that Mr. Galt had no authority to speak for us.

It is said that Canada would reduce her tariff, that there were to be two additional Legislatures and two additional Governments; we were to have the inter Colonial Railway built, and were to buy out the North Pole; we were to open up the canals, and the Northwest territory; we were to support a great army and navy; we were to keep up bridges, schools and all additional expenses, and do it for a smaller sum than we now require. To prove this, they pile figures together until ordinary minds cannot distinguish falsehood from truth. It is perfectly absurd, and insulting to the intelligence of the people, to tell them all this can be done for a less sum of money than is now expended. Under the tariff as it stood last year, we pay to the General Government \$700,000, and we receive for local purposes only \$201,000. In thirty years our population is likely to be doubled and our conscription revenue will be increased in proportion, but it will all have to be absorbed in the maelstrom at Ottawa, while we will receive only \$201,000, no withstanding our increased expenses. We came here to oppose that scheme. The hon. leader of the Opposition said Confederation had nothing to do with this question. If he got a majority he would speak differently. It is very well for him to make that assertion now for the sake of getting the votes of those who proclaim themselves to be anti-Confederates. This is precisely the same as was done at the York election. My hon. friend (Mr. F.) got people to vote for him as an anti-Confederate, little supposing they would find themselves declared converts to the Confederation scheme. It has been said that there is some scheme of Confederation in the Speech. The very man who abused the Government of the country because they did not publish dispatches the moment they received them, now turn round and say, because you say you have received certain dispatches, and presume to submit those dispatches, you prove to us that you have some foul design against the liberties of the people. I undertake to say they have no scheme to submit. If they had a scheme I should judge of it as it deserved. If there be any attempt to force Confederation upon us, I shall be found one of the most resolute opponents of such a scheme. I believe the Imperial Government has a right to hold communication with this House. Mr. Cardwell has a right to require that any

dispatch which he chooses to send out shall be submitted to the House, and it is the duty of the Government to submit them. They do not commit themselves when they express the hope that the dispatches which they submit shall receive that respect and attention which is due to suggestions emanating from so high a source. It is quite true that the paragraph in the Speech is broad enough to cover anything. It frequently happens that the language of the Speech is very enigmatical, even in regard to the Reform Bill now before the Imperial Parliament, there is no promise in the Speech that such a bill would be introduced. The fact that the Government have been repeatedly asked whether they intended to bring in a Scheme of Confederation, and they have declared they have no such intention. I feel bound to believe what they say until I see good reason to the contrary. As the Amendment stands, it strikes out of the Address the passage which says the rights and interests of the people of this Province must be protected. This is the one portion of this whole Address that this Amendment sweeps away: to all other parts they have no objection. This is the most serious blunder, and I think the whole proceeding is a blunder, for if he had allowed the Address to pass, and then brought in a motion of Want of Confidence, he could have received all the documents he chooses to ask for; neither will he have the privilege of making the last speech, for there are other paragraphs to pass and other members will have an opportunity of replying. I have made repeated allusion to the extraordinary position in which I have found myself placed in this country, without having done anything to deserve it. While those attacks are made on me, I do not allow myself to feel annoyed because I feel conscious that I do not deserve them. No man can injure me in the estimation of my friends, or in my business, but if of the late York election is any criterion of the state of things that exist in this Province, if those misrepresentations upon my character had the effect, which it is said they had, it is a reason why I should stand here and refute those attacks as I am now prepared to do. It was reported that I was proclaimed a traitor by the successful candidate; he has denied that he said so, but we know from experience that it is exceedingly difficult to know what he says. His voice is clear and distinct, but there may be something in the atmosphere which does not harmonize with it. It may be that ordinary mortals cannot distinguish the sounds which he utters. Certain it is that while he positively and repeatedly denies that he said certain things, almost every person imagined they heard him utter them. When he denies that he uttered a certain word or expression, I am bound to accept that denial, and act as if the denial was true. I do not mean to say the denial is not true, an apology may satisfy for a charge of that kind, but the most complete, the most abject disgusting apology any man can conceive, is when he says, I never uttered them. I cannot believe any man holding his head erect or any man who is thought worthy by his fellow-men to occupy a seat in this House, would ever be guilty of conduct so contemptible. I prefer to believe when he says "I did not use such words," he says

what he believes to be true. I am prepared to meet the charge of treachery, and to vindicate my character from the day I came to the use of reason to this hour; but as my hon. friend denies making the charge, I am on that point most thoroughly vindicated. The hon. member (Mr. F.) does admit making several charges against me; one of them was that I challenged the people of York to do what I did not. I have often been called a scoundrel, traitor, and every description of vile names in the category, but I have yet to learn that I have been called a fool, and surely nothing could be more foolish and absurd on my part—wishing, as I did, that the people of York would speak out as they had spoken before on the great question of Confederation—than to challenge the people of York to exercise their free will, or to say anything that implied that they had not the right to act as they thought proper. I did put a challenge in my paper, but it was not a challenge to the people of York. I thought they were then prepared, as they were before, to fight for their country against Confederation. I had no idea that they were going to be called to fight against me. (Mr. Anglin then read his challenge to the confederates of York, to bring out a confederate to test public opinion in regard to confederation, and after commenting on this, he read Mr. Fisher's address to the electors of York, on which he also made some comments.) Mr. Anglin continued. He (Mr. Fisher) said he was forced out by the challenge, to vindicate the people of York against a man who thus dare insult them, and who sympathized with the enemies of the country during the Crimean war and the Indian Mutiny. (Mr. Fisher.—True.) It is untrue; if he (Mr. F.) believed me to be a traitor, he should not have worked with me day and night in the House of Assembly, or been willing to take me into the Government if he had got the chance to form one. He should have turned his back on me and said, "You may have talent and strength, but with men of such a description of loyalty I can have nothing to do." He was glad to accept my support, take me into his councils and be my intimate friend. I was charged with sympathizing with the enemies of my country, because during the Crimean war I dared to copy Dr. Russell's letters to the *London Times*. There were many at the commencement of the war who said that to conquer the Russians was mere holiday amusement. They little knew what was due to British soldiers, for by these misrepresentations they were depriving them of the credit and glory due to their deeds. I believed it was best that the truth should be known, although I was told that I was offending parties, and would lose my business. I said it was the truth, and it was my duty as a public journalist to tell the truth. Then, in regard to the Indian mutiny, an outcry was raised because I stated the truth. After the massacre at Cawnpore, little garrisons in various parts of the country were surrounded by overwhelming forces, and deeds of valor were displayed and courage exhibited unexampled in the history of the world. When the tide turned, we find men clothed with Her Majesty's commission forgetting humanity, and committing deeds which, according to their own accounts, were not justifiable. We find