

were in favor of it, and that therefore we should adopt it—that, if we did not, England would withdraw her protection from us by degrees. But it must be remembered that Mr. Cardwell's impression was derived from the same source that prepared this grand scheme at Quebec. I have no doubt that these gentlemen impressed upon the Colonial Secretary's mind the moment the local legislatures met they would adopt the scheme. No doubt the opinion in England was, that the gentlemen who acted as delegates at the convention represented the public opinion of these Maritime Provinces; but I repel that idea. They did not represent public sentiment on this question at all; the result, not only in New Brunswick, but in Nova Scotia and the other Provinces, has proved it. Now I wish to make a reference to some remarks that fell from the hon. member for Colchester (Mr. Archibald) at a meeting in Temperance Hall on his return from Quebec. Now if there is a gentleman whom I hold in personal esteem—whom I respect for his great abilities as a legislator, it is that hon. member; but I always understood that these delegates met in good faith—that they had assembled with the determination to disclose everything affecting these Provinces—everything concerning their great resources and prospects, but they did not do so, and I shall prove it. The hon. member for Colchester said in his speech:

"Look again at the great mineral advantages we possess. With a country filled with coal, our position on the continent is such that we must necessarily become the suppliers of the whole Atlantic coast. If in the period from 1859 to 1864 we have doubled our coal trade, and the revenue has risen from \$20,000 to \$40,000, will it not double itself again in a few years, and enable us to provide from that fund alone, all that we require for education, and for the management of our roads and bridges, and our other local concerns? This does not include the revenue from our gold fields, and that has yielded this year \$15,000 above the cost of its collection. See if these advantages do not place us in a position superior to that of our neighbors. *This statement of our mineral resources is one that I would not like to have made in Canada; it is too much like 'letting the cat out of the bag,'* for although we thus obtain no unfair advantage, yet the superiority is one that might have been looked on with suspicion. Not only does this open up a view of increasing enterprise and prosperity, but it shews us one way to the position we so much desire to fill of becoming the carriers of the world."

What now do you think of a delegate, that went to meet other delegates in good faith, and yet tells you that he *suppressed facts that they ought to have known*? How becoming a position was that for a statesman to occupy? I must now refer to another speech on a recent occasion. Let me say at the outset that those who have read the debates of the Houses of Parliament are aware that there is a strong feeling in England in reference to these colonies. We have perhaps flattered ourselves with the idea that when the name of Nova Scotia was aspersed we had at least one man in the Commons to stand up for his native country; and how has that gentleman discharged his duty? We know that an attempt has been made in the press to explain away the remarks to which I am about to allude; but that explanation amounts to nothing. Judge Halliburton delivered his speech at least more than a week before the last steamer left, and we know that whenever a gentleman has been misrepresented or misunderstood in the Imperial Parliament, it is usual for him to make ex-

planations which will appear in due course in the *Times* or other public journals. But he did nothing of the kind. These remarks, aspersing the loyalty of Nova Scotia, have gone abroad without any contradiction from his own hand. Hear what he says:

"The people of Canada were, moreover, perfectly loyal, and very much attached to this country; indeed, he did not think that in Canada a disloyal man of any sect, or creed, or color was to be found. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, he was sorry to say, did not deserve the same praise in that respect, and he hoped the Secretary for the Colonies would show that he was aware that such was the case."

These are, indeed, worthy sentiments to fall from a former member of this Legislature—from one who is a pensioner of this Province. In another part of his speech he actually says that he had lived for 60 years in Canada—so ashamed was he of Nova Scotia—and other parts of the speech referred to are not more complimentary. The Provincial Secretary told you in his lengthy speech on Confederation, that he felt humiliated because Nova Scotia was not mentioned at all in the great debate in connection with these Provinces. Now, if you read the debate carefully, you will see that in the speeches of Mr. Disraeli and other eminent English statesmen, the British American Provinces are frequently mentioned, and the same kindly feeling is expressed for all. We are told that if we refuse to accept Confederation, England would withdraw her protection from us, but read the debates of the House of Commons, and you will see that this assertion is baseless. The honor of England, we are told, is concerned in the defence of these colonies. The Premier, Lord Palmerston, tells you:

"This is not a Canadian question, it is not a local question: it is an Imperial question. It is a question which affects the position and character, the honor, the interests, and the duties of this great country."

With or without Confederation we shall never be left unprotected by the mother country, should the enemy at any time touch our shores. A great deal has been said about the feelings that exist in the neighboring Republic. I deny the truth of the statement that the Americans are desirous of pouncing upon these Provinces, and are only waiting a favorable opportunity of doing so. Their object is simply to cultivate a good understanding with these colonies. Already Americans are largely identified with us, and are interested, (more especially in my county, where they shall always receive a cordial welcome,) in preserving peaceful and commercial relations with us. Some reference has also been made in the course of this debate to the *Times*. Now I am not one of those who underrate the *Times*—it is the great exponent of public opinion in England—it is a journal of immense talent and influence—second to none in that respect in the world; but it will be remembered, that there was present at the banquet given to the delegates in Quebec, a Mr. Sala, a gentleman of ability—well known to the literary world—a friend of a person who would like to be closely identified with our railway schemes. Mr. Sala, on that occasion, did not compliment the *Times*—he stated his reasons why that journal had acquired such an influence over the people, and said that after all its opinions were not of such