

of momentary duration, that they themselves cannot rely upon."

This gentleman's idea coincides with my own. That was the reason they wanted us to swallow it now, for the more it was looked into the more hideous it would appear. I lately read of a ghost which appeared in the United States, which had three descriptions of heads and two descriptions of horns; its eyes were like fiery streams, illuminating all around with a greenish blue flame. That was the ghost of Confederation let down there, and they did not know it.

Mr. Cardwell said that Scheme could be altered, and this is what he writes back to Lord Monck:

"Her Majesty's Government have given to your despatch and to the resolutions of the Conference, their most deliberate consideration. They have regarded them as a whole, and as having been designed by those who framed them to establish as complete and perfect a union of the whole into one Government, as the circumstances of the case and a due consideration of existing interests would admit. They accept them, therefore as being to the deliberate judgment of those best qualified to decide upon the subject, the best framework of a measure to be passed by the Imperial Parliament for attaining that most desirable result."

Mr. Cardwell acknowledges the Scheme was right, because they were best qualified to decide upon it. Our Government said to Mr. Cardwell, we will not adopt it, for we are the best judges of it, but Mr. Cardwell does not believe that, because it does not suit his purpose, for he thinks this union will be a most desirable result, and will relieve him of a vast amount of difficulty. He says it is the best framework of a measure—our delegates told us it was a building perfect, with foundation and superstructure all complete. Why then does Mr. Cardwell call it a framework set up, which has to be finished? He is perfectly satisfied that if that Scheme was adopted, it would add new burdens to the country. He says:

"Her Majesty's Government cannot but express the earnest hope that the arrangements which may be adopted in this respect may not be of such a nature as to increase—at least in any considerable degree—the whole expenditure, or to make any material addition to the taxation, and thereby retard the internal industry or tend to impose new burdens on the commerce of the country."

Although willing for Confederation, Mr. Cardwell puts on record that he gave us warning, whether we choose to take it or not. In regard to this \$10,000,000 to be spent in Railroads. How and when do we get it, and who is to pay for it. New Brunswick will pay for it. Our revenue in ten years will amount to \$10,000,000, and we can have this expended in the country year by year without going into Confederation. In Canada everything is taxed, and they have even enacted a stamp act, and when we go into Confederation our taxes will have to conform to theirs. I will support the Government as long as they are true to anti-Confederate principles, and no man can charge me with being inconsistent in this matter. I hope to see the day come

when this question will be settled and settled for ever. I know there are men whose souls soar away beyond us, who are satiated with all the little New Brunswick can give them, and they reach forward to the celebrated towers and palaces of the far-off Ottawa; for this they would let New Brunswick go to the winds and be lost for ever. Bring us near to the darling of our souls, the far away Ottawa, with its miles of cornucopia and its acres of plaster, and let us revel there in vice-regal glory. But there are loyal sons of New Brunswick who will not be carried away by all this splendor, and when the time comes, it will be seen that this splendor has been like a dissolving view to their eyes, become "the baseless fabric of a vision which leaves not a wreck behind." In conclusion, I will thank the members of the House for having listened to me so long, for I felt I could not do justice to myself and to the question if I occupied less time than I have done. I regret that it is out of my power to bring before this House all that I would like to bring before them, in order that the people of the country may understand the question. I have shown enough I think to satisfy hon. members that I have a right to take the stand I do, that I have a right to feel I am pursuing an honest and disinterested course in sustaining that Government, who have determined with me to resist to the political death any onslaught on the rights and liberties of this free people; and I, so far as I am concerned in this matter, believe I stand connected with men and with a party of men who are quite willing to endorse the principles of the Poet:

Strike till the last armed foe expires,
Strike for our altars and our fires,
Strike for the green graves of our sires,
For God and our native land."

When I forget my country so far as to sell it for Confederation, may my right hand forget its cunning, and if I do not prefer New Brunswick, as she is, to Canada with all her glory, then let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth. When the day comes when we shall have, according to the wish of my hon. friend from Charlotte (Mr. Hill), Confederation deposited in the grave, those that will be there will not be there as mourners, but as glorifiers, and they will sing, with hearts elate with patriotic joy:

Then safely moored, our perils o'er,
We'll sing the songs of Jubilee,
For ever and for ever more,
New Brunswick, Land of Liberty.

The House then adjourned until 10 A.M. to-morrow.

T. P. D.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4.

On motion of Mr. OTTY, the House went into committee on

"A BILL RELATING TO WEIGHTS."

Mr. OTTY said the object of the Bill was sufficiently explained by the Bill. By it, instead of having 112 lbs to the hundred weight, they would have the decimal system, which would be much more convenient in weighing all kinds of produce. They had adopted it in Eng-

land, after discussing it in Parliament for many years. It is upon the same principle as an Act passed in Canada in 1855. This Bill had been approved of by the Agricultural Societies of King's County, and also by the Agricultural Board, and no doubt it will be approved of by the people of the Province.

COL. BOYD said the Bill was in favor of the seller and against the buyer.

Mr. ANGLIN said it was a Bill which they had had before them for several years. He would ask what advantage there was in having these continual changes. This Bill was got up, not so much for simplifying transactions, as to sell a smaller quantity of produce by a measure which would convey the idea to the buyers that they were receiving a larger quantity. It did not make any difference in the weighing and calculation whether they marked an article 100 or 112. They had a law saying what weight should constitute a bushel of potatoes, but it was disregarded. They ought to be very careful in passing laws which will be disregarded, because when laws are disregarded it has a tendency to bring all laws into contempt.

Mr. HILL believed the Bill did not go far enough. It ought to include potatoes and all other things that are sold by weight. We should simplify these things. The old established usages are very well in their place, but we should progress.

Mr. LINDSAY moved an additional section, that the standard weight of oats be 33 1-3 lbs.

HON. MR. HATHEWAY saw no need of the amendment, as the weight of the oats always regulated the price. The Bill would cause a great deal of inconvenience, as the weights throughout the country were according to the present method.

Mr. KERR spoke against reducing the standard weight of oats. If under Confederation he would go for the Bill, but did not think it was called for at present.

Mr. ANGLIN said hundreds and bushels were arbitrary sounds, which from habit and practice convey certain ideas. If they were so anxious to get rid of the old system, they might as well do away with it altogether. In the old country everything is sold by weight, which is the proper way. If we are going to have decimals let us introduce the whole system. If you introduce a revolution in these things, it would be some time before it would be understood throughout the country, and a great many disputes would arise.

Mr. McCLELLAN spoke in favor of the Bill.

Mr. WILMOT said that altering the standard weights did not regulate the price, for if they sold a less quantity they were paid in proportion.

Mr. GILBERT said that goods going over the railway paid their freight on the decimal system, and were bought and sold by the old method, which led to considerable inconvenience and sometimes to miscalculation.

Mr. SCOVIL said the true principle was that all produce should be weighed, which was the only way of determining the worth of the article, and this Bill provided the most simple way of calculating those weights.

Mr. CONNELL said that oats in the State of Maine were sold at thirty pounds to the bushel. It was nonsense to think that the standard weight of oats affected the quality that would be grown in the country. If a farmer raised good oats,