

their own interest, and they took a view of this question from a wrong standpoint. The Government had a strong influence in support of Confederation, even when not directly exercised, because men who did not understand the question would support the measure as they considered that it must be a good Scheme, for the members of the Government who had given the subject every consideration had supported it. The hon. member has also said that the influence of the President of the Council was as great in regard to promising offices as the late Government. There was no influence in this respect, for it was prophesied from the beginning of the election campaign that Confederation would be carried; the newspapers said that there would be twenty-six returned in favor of it at the very least, and even those opposed to the Scheme feared it would be carried. The Reverend Editor of a paper told us that a majority would be returned in favor of Confederation, whether Charlotte elected men in support of it or not, and others said that if we wished any favors from the Government, we must return men who would support them, as they were sure to be elected and have a majority in the House. This had a great effect in influencing the votes of the people in favor of the Scheme. Again, reference has been made to ecclesiastical influence. In our County I am not aware of any clergyman taking any part in the elections; but in the City of St. John, the organs of religious denominations were in favor of Confederation. They raised an issue that it was a question in which religion was largely involved, and they had an influence among the people throughout the country. The hon. gentleman from Albert says why should we send this delegation home, as Confederation is dead. I say we want to bury it, it can never be resuscitated. I do not think it right that we should bur- en ourselves with debt, and deprive ourselves with all power to regulate our own affairs for the sake of giving twenty-five men a larger field in which to exhibit themselves. The more this Scheme is discussed the less favor it will find. The Government chose their own time; they made their statements to the public first, they had the press in their favor, and they used every opportunity to bring their views before the country. The election took place in winter when the lumbermen were absent, and those who got to the polls had little information on this subject, therefore they had every advantage which their influence and position could give them. The proper method would have been to have submitted the question to a direct vote of the people, apart from all political considerations, or the popularity of this or that candidate. My hon. friend said the extension of the Canals in Canada might be as popular in New Brunswick as in Canada. He has given us credit for a great deal of disinterestedness in stating that we would be willing to help build those Canals, which will have the effect of carrying the trade away from us. We are not generally so disinterested; the people of the North are not willing to be taxed to build Western Extension, unless it is to get something in return. The hon. gentleman says we should rise above the position of politicians into the position of statesmen; he would have us rise above all considerations of the interests of our own Province. I say it is the duty of the statesmen of New Brunswick to look after the welfare of their own Province. So far as business is concerned, Canada is

a foreign country to us. He says that we stand in the same position to Canada that the seaboard in the United States does to the great West. He must give us credit for a great deal of geographical ignorance in regard to the United States and Canada Railways. It is only 469 miles from the City of Toronto to New York; but it is by the Intercolonial Railway 1,100 miles to St. John, and goods will be sent to the nearest outlet. We are told this Intercolonial Railway is to cost us nothing, and it will develop our mines and minerals of Albert and Carleton Counties. I would ask what route it will take. I have understood that it will take the general route, then it will pass through several of these Counties. It has been said by a Canadian statesman that after the Intercolonial Railway was built, he would not undertake to run it, for the whole revenue of one of the Lower Provinces. My hon. friend dwelt upon the great advantage that would accrue to the people of this Province from the increased market which we would have for manufactured articles; but the fact is, that the manufactured articles of Canada sell on the upper St. John now at cheaper rates than those of home manufacture, notwithstanding the cost of transport and duty upon them. They can manufacture cheaper than we can, because labor and coal are cheaper; in addition to that they food are cheaper; inasmuch as many vessels leaving ports in England to go to Quebec, for the purpose of getting a cargo of timber, take out coal and iron at low freight as ballast; therefore we find they are quoted cheaper there than in St. John; besides that they have the market and the consumers at their own door. I do not believe the manufacturers who signed that circular in St. John, had any idea of sending their goods to Canada, but they may have thought of sending them to Nova Scotia. All the advantages that would be gained by this Union, would be gained by free trade among the Lower Provinces, or a maritime Union. Great stress is laid upon the fact, that we said by our flour from Canada. It was said by the hon. member from the County of Albert, that we would buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest. Quebec never will be the cheapest market for us to buy in, taking into consideration the cost of transport, and the fact that Lower Canada is not a grain producing country. If we wish to obtain it from Montreal we have to transport it a distance of 550 miles, if we bring it by the Intercolonial Railway; but it can be brought much cheaper to Portland, as the distance by the Grand Trunk Railway is but 290 miles and from there to St. John it can be brought at an additional cost of twenty-five cents per barrel. It is said they may put on certain restrictions that will prevent Canadian goods from finding an outlet. It is not to be supposed that the people of the United States will be so blind to their interests as to prevent the expenditure of millions of money in the transport of Canadian goods. It has been stated that this Scheme was rejected on account of the unpopularity of the late Government, this is not the case in our section of the country, for the Liberal party are there very popular; but when this Scheme came up, our people said they would sacrifice the Liberal party for the sake of opposing Confederation. I am desirous of seeing this delegation because it is necessary to make use of some such means to correct the misrepresentations that have been made there by the Cana-

dian delegates. There is one point on which I can agree with my hon. friend from the County of Albert, that is, in his choice of delegates; he thinks the hon. Mr. Smith and the hon. Mr. Anglin are the proper persons to go on this delegation. There are no two men who so well represent the sentiments of the people of New Brunswick on this question, and there are no two men who have done so much to oppose this Scheme, which would have brought so much evil upon the people of this Province. It has been said that the hon. President of the Council might have allowed a desire for position to influence his course. It is well known that this is not the case. He has made a sacrifice of his time and money for the good of the country; he has devoted his time and his ability to enlighten the people. If it is ambition, to have labor, care and anxiety for the benefit of the public without any remuneration, it is of an unblamable kind, and I wish we had more of it.

Mr. McCLELLAN.—I did not charge him with that. I said he was just as open to the charge of ambition as any other man.

Mr. HILL.—They tell us that anti-Confederation had but four or six hundred majority, and that is reported and reiterated and adopted as being the true state of things. It appears that the mantle of prophecy has fallen upon these gentlemen; they tell us now as they told us before the election, that Confederation is sure to be carried. They are like Miller prophesying the destruction of the world; when the time comes for the prophecy to be fulfilled they prophesy anew. These gentlemen imitate the rallying cry of Mahomet, "Great is Allah and Mahomet is his Prophet," and substitute "Great is Confederation and many are its profits." But the profits would be to Canada and the expense to New Brunswick and the other Maritime Provinces. Much stress has been laid by the advocates of Confederation upon the military and defence portion of the question. We have been told that we were in danger of being swallowed up by the United States, and that we must unite with Canada in order to place ourselves in a position to repel any attack from that quarter. The Monroe doctrine, in all its terrors, has been harped upon. Do these gentlemen know what the doctrine is, and where it originated? Do they know that it emanated from the British Government, and that its promulgation was urged by that Government through its Minister at Washington upon the Cabinet of President Monroe. France had formed an alliance with Spain, and one of the objects of that alliance was the reconquest of the Spanish American Colonies, for the purpose of again bringing them under the domination of the Latin races. The British Ministry, anxious to prevent the success of this Scheme, strongly pressed upon the American Government the adoption of that policy, which was almost immediately accepted by President Monroe, and embodied in his famous message to Congress. This policy, then first declared, was that the United States would not consent to the establishment of any Foreign Power upon American soil, and that they would not, without restriction, allow any European nation to obtain further foothold in America beyond that already existing. And now, while the establishment of Maximilian by French aid in Mexico is an infringement of the policy so laid down, the British North American Provinces do not come within its restriction and it was