

is the use of our Militia and preparations for defence, if we are to be handed over to the American Republic so summarily? Every man who loves the flag under which he lives should sink all personal and political considerations, and join with those who are laboring to unite the Provinces more closely to the British Empire.

It is not necessary that the hon. member for East Halifax should utter disloyal expressions on the street; we have only to read the articles in his own paper. The logic of events for months past, has been telling us of the danger that is imminent. We know that the Fenian organization has attained to most formidable dimensions. The President of the United States has himself deigned to receive deputations from these men. At so critical a period we have the hon. member copying from papers in England (the Pall Mall Gazette for instance) and endorsing their statements, to prove that we are not safe—that all the money England could expend upon us would be spent in vain—that we must be eventually absorbed into the American Union. Is it any wonder, then, that men in the States are to be found in favor of Annexation? Here is a specimen of what we read in the hon. member's journal—

"At present we are arming and drilling, expending money, time and men without stint, that we may resist invasion of our territories by the Fenians. Is this because we are Colonists, or because we are Britons? It might be supposed from statements of the Press that it is as Colonists we are arming; but such is not the case. We are arming and drilling not so much to defend our homes, not so much to defend Canada, New Brunswick or Nova Scotia, as such, but to defend the honor, the integrity, and prestige of Britain. *All the expense annoyance and danger to which we are exposed is for the sake of Britain, not for our own. Were we free from Britain we should hear nothing of invasion by the Fenians.*"

What feeling is a statement like that inclined to make among our own people? We are told that we are in bondage to Great Britain—that we are endangered by our connection with her, and that our safety lies in getting rid of her. This is the way that these gentlemen have been endeavouring to indoctrinate the people with their Annexation ideas. They would rather belong to the United States than even remain Nova Scotians. Shame, I say, upon men who can come into the presence of this loyal assemblage with sentiments like these in their hearts!

When the hon. member was Financial Secretary in 1862 the government brought up and carried this very question. He went then on a delegation to Quebec for the express purpose of carrying out the resolution passed unanimously in this House, and uniting us to Canada. Now he veers round when his former political associates, Messrs. Archibald and McCully wish to carry the question, and oppose all Union. Last session he stated that the local revenue under Confederation would be \$390,427—the same year he says in his paper that it would be only \$62,700. Again, last session he admitted that this province under Confederation would receive from the General Government (beside the 80 cents per head of our population) \$731,595. On December 12th of some year he says that all

the surplus over 80 cents a head would go to the Northwest of Canada. Could inconsistency go further? Then he spoke to us about taxation in Canada—that we would have to pay double what we now pay. The fact is that the people of Canada are not taxed, man for man, as much as we are. He tells us Canada is in debt. So are we. But Canada can point to public works equivalent to her debt—which is more than we can do. The hon. member should know that if Canada fails, we fail too; if she is safe, we are safe. Has not Mr. Howe told us this himself? But what more does Mr. Annand do? He has actually proposed to tax the people to a larger extent than they can, by any possibility, be taxed under Confederation. He is ready to pass a law by which the men of this country shall be sent to Canada when there is no Confederation—when we have no legislative control over her—when we are different countries. He even goes so far as to express his willingness to pay in the same proportion for defence as all other portions of the British Empire. Remember, this is not for the protection of British North America alone, but for the whole Empire. Yet this is the gentleman who objects to Confederation because it may heavily burden us. I believe that if we have railway communication with Canada, it will be the means of making this country safe from invasion. When we feel we are one people—when we have a national sentiment—when we can present a united population of four millions of people animated by the same interests and affections, we shall have a guarantee of security and prosperity that we cannot have now.

Mr. Howe has told the people that the Citadel of Halifax would not be safe unless we had connection with Canada by means of an Intercolonial Railway. I think that neither he nor his friend, the hon. member for East Halifax should talk about persons being bought. I heard the hon. member quite distinctly say that he could have had money from hon. George Brown if he had wished it, and place and preference too, if he would only promise to support Confederation. If any person should attempt to bribe me with Canadian or American gold, I would look upon it as the greatest insult that could be offered to a man, however humble. Mr. Brown must have had a very low estimate of the hon. member if he made such an offer; but now the hon. member attempts to deny that he ever made the statement he did on Friday last on the subject. Well, I shall not press the matter further, for he has already been very thoroughly exposed, and all I can say is, that I think the hon. member is the last person in the house to charge others with being bought.

The hon. member told us that he had yet to hear the first argument in favor of union, though he had been a delegate on the question to Canada in 1862. Now, I find that in November last, 1865, he expressed another opinion on the same subject—he wanted another delegation. He thought then he might have a chance of being one of the members sent on the mission. He says:—

"This is our case.

"The Confederation Scheme matured at