

Union. He thought very highly of the Government of Great Britain, but did not consider them qualified to sit as arbiters on the destinies of this Province, or to act in reference to the matter at all, as they had already spoken in favor of a Scheme which was refused by the people of New Brunswick. And the reason why they were in favor of the Quebec Scheme, was because many of their members and friends are interested in the canals and other public works of Canada, who had spent millions and tens of millions in their improvements. If left to these parties to decide, we should be swamped. But let restrictions be put on the delegates, that unless such and such concessions are made then no Union can take place. With regard to the Inter-Colonial Railway, he believed it would be built, and that if Confederation had been put aside it would have been underway before this. Mr. Cate was about to enter on some financial statements with regard to our position in and out of the Union, but the hour having come for separation, he merely would say that he should support the Amendment.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. McNERNEY did not rise to offer any hostile opposition to the Government, or to offer any amendment to the Resolutions. He was sent to oppose the passage of a plan of Union based on the Quebec Scheme, or any other that would take away the rights of the people. Our taxes at present were twelve per cent. a head, whilst in Canada they were twenty-five per cent. a head. If we go into Union we should have to assume part of their liabilities, and we should be taxed according to their rate. The amount of taxes raised will be about a million dollars, and our proportion of this, according to our population, would be \$21.00, leaving the balance to go into the working expenses of Canada. He might be wrong, but this was as he understood it. The Scheme provided that public works in Canada should be proceeded with when the finances would permit. He would ask when was that? Why just as soon as they needed it. He was under the impression that about forty million dollars would be asked for the improvement of the lakes and canals of Canada, that five million dollars would go to buy up the Hudson Bay Territories, and about twelve millions of dollars to build the Inter-Colonial Railroad. These sums we would have to assume in proportion to our population. The resolution now before the House he should have to oppose, for knowing the feelings of his people, he could not stand there and vote for the appointment of delegates to go two thousand miles away to prepare a new Scheme of Union, which

we know nothing about, thus abrogating the rights of the people. It was almost a folly for him to stand there and raise his voice when hon. and learned gentlemen had so ably spoken on the question. The Provincial Secretary had spoken of the ignorance of the people of Kent and Westmorland. He said they had not means for obtaining information. But the supporters of the Quebec Scheme had used every means in their power to gain over the people of these Counties, and as the representative of the County of Kent, he was proud to say they had failed—the people of Kent could not be bought. Expressions had been made with regard to Fenianism; he approached the subject with great delicacy, being an Irishman, and many people seemed to think that all Irishmen were Fenians. This he denied, it was a false position to place them in. When the time of trial came and war was upon us, if it ever should come, he, for one, would be found in the front rank of the battle prepared to meet the foe, while those who had maligned him and call him Fenian and traitor were skulking in the rear. He stood there the representative of the sixteen thousand men of the County of Kent, men of intelligence, although he did not profess to be a fair specimen, and he wished to ask the Provincial Secretary if in his remarks he referred to the hon. member from Westmorland and his constituents or to the supporters of that hon. gentleman in the House. He would ask if it was applied to him.

Hon. Mr. TILLEY—"No."

Mr. McNERNEY was glad to receive the answer of the Provincial Secretary, as his people would expect him to know exactly to whom it was applied. He could not excuse the House with high sounding language like some of the hon. members. He apologized for occupying the time, and should vote for the Amendment.

Mr. BECKWITH only rose, as so much had been said, to remove some of the fallacies put forward by the hon. member for Westmorland to shew why he could not vote for the Amendment. That hon. gentleman possessed a very earnest style of oratory, so that things which he could not himself believe—(Mr. Beckwith) gave him credit for better sense—was likely to make an impression on superficial observers. The very eloquent speech of the member for Charlotte (Mr. Chandler) he did think at the time would convince the hon. member for Westmorland that he was all wrong, and he really expected to see the Amendment to the Resolution withdrawn. Like Festus, he is "almost persuaded," but can't come down just to the right thing. There was no doubt that the troublesome affair on the border had tended to show the people on what a volcano they stood. The evident result of success would have been to cast

us into the American Union. A late Chicago paper had said perhaps, after all, it was best to let Confederation be consummated, as it would save trouble. Then the United States would be able to swallow all the Provinces at once, instead of morsel by morsel. The movement of the Fenians showed us that it was intended we should be the first morsel. The ex-Attorney General had said that the necessities of Canada was the origin of the idea of Union. He (Mr. B.) agreed with him to a certain extent. Every inland country requires a seaboard on which to receive and ship material, and it thus becomes a necessity for Upper Canada to unite with the Maritime Provinces. The French people of Canada are industrious, kind and frugal, but they are not a progressive people. In the House of Assembly in Canada he heard the leading Lower Canadian statesmen oppose a measure providing for Light Houses. But the people of Upper Canada are constantly moving onward; they believe in progress. They see that united to us they will become a great people, but alone they are nothing. If they cannot obtain a Union with us they must have a Federal Union among themselves, which would be injurious to us. Now is the time to strike while the iron is hot. He should be delighted to see the hon. ex-Attorney General one of the delegates to look after the interests of the Antis, but whatever was going to be done, he would like to see done at once. It was objected that Messrs. McGee and McD could not be altered to the dotting of an i or the crossing of a t. But, he would ask, to whom was this remark addressed? It was said to the Canadians that they who formed only one party to the bargain could not alter the slightest provision in the Scheme.

But if the other Provinces are agreed then the i's may be dotted and the t's crossed, and criss crossed. It had also been said that Upper Canada was increasing so fast that we should be swamped. He thought, however, our position and the fact that St. John would necessarily become the winter port for the Confederation, we should increase quite as fast as Upper Canada. The ex-Attorney General also was very much alarmed because, as he said, Canada would tax us for whatever was needed. Now the fact was, all would tax all. Another great bugbear was the canals of Canada. But these canals were paying more than any public works which we have in the Provinces, and anyone who has read the documents submitted to the Convention held at Detroit, must be aware that we have a great interest in the widening and deepening of these canals. When members from Upper