

end, no matter under what form it may be imposed upon us." That is the conclusion at which the hon. member arrived in 1858, after a careful examination of the whole question. In 1865, matters are completely changed, and the hon. member has discovered that the only possible safety for Lower Canada is to be found in that very Confederation of all the provinces which he rejected with all his might in 1858. This is the conclusion at which he arrived in his latest pamphlet. "After having carefully considered the various schemes of union with their various conditions of existence we, have proved that Confederation was, in our present circumstances, the system best calculated for our protection and for securing our prosperity in the future." The hon. member for Montmorency explains this complete change in his views since 1858, as follows:—

Until lately we admit we were more in favor of a Confederation of the two Canadas than of the grander scheme, because then we had no national aspirations, and we believed that we should find in it more protection for the interests of Lower Canada. We acted as though we had to deal with present or probable enemies, and like a good tactician we desired to have as few enemies arrayed against us as possible; but since our constant communications during the sittings of the Convention with the eminent statesmen of the Atlantic Provinces, many of these apprehensions, and indeed the motives of opposition, have been dispelled from our mind.

So that the mere contact which the hon. member enjoyed with the political men of the Maritime Provinces, during the fifteen days they were here, has been sufficient to dispel all his apprehensions for the fate of the institutions of Lower Canada in the Confederation of all the provinces. It is the confidence with which these gentlemen have inspired him, and not the guarantees offered by the plan of Confederation, which have changed his opinions of 1858. I find in the *Journal de Québec*, a newspaper edited by the honorable member for Montmorency, a few very amusing passages upon the question of the confidence which ought to be reposed in political friends. These articles also date from 1858. The honorable member was then in opposition. It is true that he did not look at the honorable member for South Oxford and myself in such an unfavorable light as he has since done. At that time he was laying the whip pretty severely upon the shoulders of his present friends. But the doctrines he then held appear to be still

applicable. On the 26th of August, 1858, the honorable member wrote an article under the heading "*Les Amis les Ennemis*," in which he said:—

The *friends*, the ministerial supporters from Upper Canada, have endeavored, during the present session, to impose upon us representation based upon population, and the abolition of separate schools. A minister, Mr. SMITH, even voted for representation based on population! The *enemies*—the members of the Opposition—have left the initiative of these odious matters to be taken by our friends the ministerialists; and moreover, to prove that though they were enemies, they would treat us better than our friends the ministerialists, they were willing to pay the seigniors all the casual rights due by the censitaires (£500,000). After that we do not ask too much when we ask that our enemies may have justice

And a little further on he adds:—

Mr. CARTIER galvanises a corpse, which starts up in its hideousness only to fall back never to rise again. The lamp in going out casts some few pale and feeble rays, and soon we shall have the darkness of night. The days of the very worst government which has ever weighed down the destinies of Canada are numbered. There are not many of them, and all the re-constructions that are possible will not add one to their number.

On the 28th August, in an article on representation based on population, the hon. member for Montmorency expressed himself as follows:—

But friends may do anything they like; whatever they do is well done! Mr. FERGUSON, a ministerialist, will demand the abolition of separate schools; he is a *friend*; one must have confidence in him and kiss the Orange hand which strikes the blow. Mr. MALCOLM CAMERON will ask for representation by population; he is another *friend*, and Mr. BROWN is the criminal, Mr. BROWN is the *enemy*. The Administration, for the first time in our parliamentary annals, makes the question of the representation an open question. The Ministry is composed of ten of our most ardent and loyal friends; will they deceive and betray us? Mr. SMITH, the first among them, votes in the face of astonished Lower Canada for representation by population. He is an Orangeman, one of our kindest friends, and of course in his extreme friendship it is his duty so to vote. The members from Lower Canada ought to accept all this, and they have accepted it with gratitude! But for a *rouge*—an enemy—to seek even the tenth part of all this, is odious, it is immoral, it is to sap the foundation of the country, it is to deserve the shame and death of Calvary. And would you believe it?—all this indignation is expended for the benefit of a power which has soiled, blemish-