

they would sound a tocsin that would lead ultimately to independence. These were his honest sentiments.

Mr. Needham referred to Mr. Cardwell's despatch, and asked if it was not a strong intimation that the Government desired Confederation under the Quebec Scheme. Look at the position of the Government and then let them say if they could have answered that despatch in any other terms than they did. The Government were formed on an anti-Confederate basis, directly opposed to that scheme. When he went through the contest at the general election he was opposed to that Quebec Scheme, and had shewn up its defects to the best of his ability. But half of its iniquity had not been told. He would tell the House some things concerning it that would amaze them. If there was ever a self-perpetrated against any country it was that Quebec Scheme. He would not only show, but prove it, before he was done. Mr. Cardwell might be a very nice man, (so they were all very nice men) but he must not attempt to coerce this Province. He thought, perchance, that they were a small people here—only some 250,000 men and women—that to his mind might be a very small number, only the population of some third rate town in England. But he forgot there was a difference between man and man. But where would he find in England 250,000 that were equal to the 250,000 of New Brunswick. There could not be found in Europe or Asia, 250,000 with equal general intelligence, ability, and equal administrative talent. They in New Brunswick breathed from their birth the pure bracing air of freedom. They were accustomed to self-government, and would yield to none their civil and political rights. Every man born in New Brunswick felt himself to be a man, and every woman felt herself to be a woman. The mind was the standard of the man. When the British Government invested this country with the right of self-government had they any right to take it away again? (Here the hon. member at great length showed that it was the intention of the Canadians, and had settled at the Conference, that the scheme was to be put through the various legislatures without any appeal to the people. He had been present, he said, in Woodstock, when Mr. Fisher made the first grand development of the scheme; when he spoke of the Union of the Colonies, the founding of a grand nationality, as a theme demanding the powers of a Demosthenes; when he compared the delegates who met at Quebec to the men of the first American Revolution who sealed the independence of the United States. Those latter were very great men. Mr. N. proceeded to say, they did not meet and finish up their constitution in seventeen days, and afterwards sign it on a Sunday; but they took years before they finished their work, and it was a constitution that had stood the political turmoil and the battle shock of seventy-four years, and would last for ages. When he heard his hon. colleague say, that the steamer that took the delegates to Quebec reminded him of the Mayflower freighted with the pious pilgrims who landed on Plymouth rock; he could not help thinking if the Mayflower, instead of being freighted with pious pilgrims, had such a band on

board as those men who played such a part at the Conference at Quebec, she would have sunk before she got half way on her passage to this continent. With regard to the Quebec Scheme, its supporters said that it was the best scheme they had got, or would ever get. Why, while he was speaking he would check out a better and more honest measure. He would never consent that the scheme should be inflicted upon the country. He gave the Government a perfectly independent support. Let the Government tell the House if Needham had ever asked them for anything, or solicited any favor. He felt above that; true friendship was unbought, and friendship was best displayed when needed. What had the leadership of the Government said—"rather than submit to the Quebec Scheme he would go down with the ship." So would he; he would stick to the ship and go down with it, if go down he must. It was said by several hon. members that Confederation was foreshadowed in the Speech, but he said it was not. With regard to the question of Union, he was not going to tell the House whether he was in favor of it or not. He was not going to tell his enemies his ideas concerning it, and give them the benefit of his brains.

Mr. Needham then said, that he would now come down to the despatches. His hon. colleague said that those despatches ought to have been published. Why did he not, when in Government in 1850, publish the despatches he received; he referred to the despatches of Sir Edmund Head. When they did come before the House it was in a mutilated form, rows of asterisks between gaping paragraphs. There was great dissatisfaction, and a resolution was moved in the House calling on the Government to submit them whole. He would ask his hon. colleague if any Government had ever published despatches before they were submitted to the House. Let hon. members judge how absurd it was for his colleague (Mr. F.) to charge this Government with not doing what his Government had not done.

(The hon. member here quoted from the "political primer" to show the inconsistency of Mr. Fisher, and contrasted the position he held when in the Government in 1850, with regard to the Colonial Office, and his disregard then for despatches emanating from the Colonial Office, and the position he took against the present Government on these points.

Mr. Needham then branched into a history of the struggle for Responsible Government. He knew all the men who had taken part in that great contest. He revered the memories of those who had passed away. Some were still upon the stage of life, and some had taken to themselves all the glory of the measure. He thought that the glory should be given to whom the glory was due—the plume of victory to those who had really fought the battle. It had been said that Judge Wilmot and Mr. Fisher had fought the fight, and certainly they had enjoyed all the honor and credit of the victory. But who were the men who did the work—who went into the back settlements of the country and fought the battle side by side by night and by day—who were they? John Pickard and others, whose services have never been acknowledged. It was accident often that caused men to be he-

roes. If Wilmot and Fisher had not had such men as those fighting the hard fight, they would never have enjoyed the glory and the fruits of victory, and Responsible Government had not been won for the people. Was it Wellington that won the victory of Waterloo, and freed Europe from the thralldom of Napoleon? Was it not rather the brave fellows who fought, bled and died without due meed of honor? What he blamed Wilmot and Fisher for was, that they had not given equal credit to those who fought the battle with them. There was a man now living than whom no man had done more for the cause by his pen and his word. He referred to Dr. Livingstone of St. John's—a man true, faithful, honest, sincere—a man of great sagacity and indomitable energy, who had done more to give the people Responsible Government than any man who had engaged in the contest—more than those who had gained all the honor had done combined, and how had he been rewarded for his services? And what did Wilmot and Fisher do? They, alarmed by the strength of a great principle, went into a coalition Government. When an appointment was made that would have been of some service to Dr. Livingstone—who they knew had worked so hard—they gave it to an opponent of Responsible Government. The proper place for the Doctor would have been in the Legislative Council. They ought to have put him in the Upper House, but though they had the opportunity, they neglected to give honor to whom honor was due. They were afraid to put him there, more shame to them. He thought they should not have been so anxious to get into Government. They would have done themselves more honor if they had waited. However, they had received pay for all they ever did. His friend got the Paines Judgeship, and he left his (Mr. N.) hon. colleague in the Government to fight the battles all alone.

He would wind up with a few words about the despatch—he meant the glorious despatch of 16th July. The hon. member of Albert (McClellan) called it the immortal despatch. The Attorney General said, when he read it in the Colonial Office in London, he was proud of it, and endorsed it every word. He had never had doubt about it himself, and he thought the people would endorse it also. He was delighted to have an opportunity to express his opinion upon it; when he first saw it and read it, his heart leapt for joy. He thought that it had made Mr. Cardwell understand, when he dealt with the people of New Brunswick, he dealt with a people who knew the right and privileges of Responsible Government, and were determined to maintain them.

A. A.

MONDAY, APRIL 2.

After a number of Bills had been brought in, the House, on motion of Mr. Caie, went into Committee to take into consideration "A Bill to provide for the more effectual repair of roads and bridges in the Parishes of Carleton and Welford, in the County of Kent." Mr. CAIE, in explaining the object of the Bill, said that it was a similar to one that was in operation in the Parish of Richibucto, where it had worked very well; and the inhabitants of the Parish in which he resided, were