

criminals! Poor people! why do you allow yourselves to be deceived? If the Ministers are desirous of pushing on the measure, it is because of the check which the Ministry of New Brunswick have just had, and because it is for us to use all diligence to show the Mother Country that we do not hang fire, but are ready to do our part to carry out the treaty or compromise agreed on by the delegates at the Conference held at Quebec. It is time we should do something to improve our position; for the intended revocation of the treaty of reciprocity, the probable abolition of the "transit" system, and other tokens of ill-feeling with which President LINCOLN's Message of the present year is filled, are enough to warn us to prepare to meet the storm which is blowing up on the political horizon, that we ought immediately to look out for better shelter than we have at present. (Hear.) If, hereafter, an appeal to the people, relative to the plan and details of the local governments, becomes necessary, I am convinced that a majority of the counties of both Canadas will understand their true interests, will be able to distinguish their real friends from those who aim at deceiving them by flattering their prejudices, and that we shall be sent back to this place with full powers to vote the final adoption of the scheme of Confederation. (Cheers.) But if I, for one, am civilly told that I must stay at home, I shall have the satisfaction of saying that I have fallen like a man who preferred his duty to a fleeting popularity; and although it may be an easy matter for the fair and intelligent county of Vaudreuil to send to this House, as its representative, a member more competent in many respects than I am, I venture to affirm that it will be difficult to find any one who has more at heart than I have the interests, the happiness and the prosperity of his country! (Continued cheers.) I have abundant reason to believe that the people will comprehend the position of the country, will see that a measure of this kind is necessary—nay, indispensable, and that when once the union of the five provinces of British North America has been perfectly settled, we shall enter on a new era, an era of progress in all things—industrial, manufacturing and commercial, and shall begin to take a prominent place among the nations of this vast continent; the people will understand, finally, that the vessel of the state has fallen into the hands of able pilots, well qualified to take it into port, notwithstanding

the storms and rocks with which its course is beset. (Cheers.) I for one, Mr. SPEAKER, have full confidence in our future in the bosom of Confederation. The day is, I think, not far distant when the "Good Genius" who rules over the future destiny of the new Empire of British North America will cry aloud, with one foot on the shores of the Pacific while the other rests on that of the Atlantic—"All this is ours. This wealth, these fair fields, those pretty hamlets, those vast cities, in which thousands of people enjoy the fruits of their toil, and live without fear under the English flag, belong to us! See those factories, those works of all kinds, those canals and railways crossing each other in every direction, fostering trade throughout the length and breadth of this vast domain! We are now a numerous and a mighty people—our population has grown—Europe has contributed its contingent of brave and courageous hearts, who have been attracted hither by the hope of an amount of happiness and prosperity which their native country had denied them." Then too, this "Good Genius," turning his eyes in the direction of Great Britain, will say with truth—"No other, behold your eldest-born, worthy of such a parent!" (Cheers.) And posterity, glorying in their ancestors, will exclaim—"Behold the fruits of the conscientious and patriotic labors of that chosen band of thirty-three, who sat in high conference at Quebec, in October, 1864." (Loud cheers.)

HON. ATTY. GEN. CARTIER—After hearing the eloquent and talented speech which the hon. member for Vaudreuil has just delivered, I have one emotion of regret: it is, that the venerable ancestor of that gentleman (the Hon. ALAIN CHARTIER DE LOTBINIÈRE), who was one of the first Speakers called to the Chair of the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada, whose portrait adorns this House, has not, from the tomb, heard the accents—the well-considered, loyal and heart-felt expressions of his descendant. How justly would he have been proud of him! (Cheers.)

HON. MR. LAFRAMBOISE—Mr. SPEAKER, the honorable member for Vaudreuil asked, a moment ago, what we French-Canadians had to fear under Confederation? Well, I will tell him at once, or rather when his friends have done congratulating him. The honorable gentleman read us a couple of letters from bishops of the Lower Provinces in order to convince us that all must be for the best under Confederation for our Catholic