in the state of th opt." He would reply, that we have no desire whatever to become a party in the projected Union of the Provinces; and it would be the beight of absurdity in us to lay down terms for a compact which we are not only unwilling to enter as we shall have the power to do so. These were the reasons why be was in favor of the second and third resolu Were we once to admit the principle of the projected Federation, it would be impossible for us to keep out of i. He would go back to the inception of the scheme abou three years ago. When in the Session of 1863 the question was first brought before the Assembly, whether it would he better for Prince Edward Island to enter into the processed Confederation of the Lower Provinces, or to remain as she was in her senitrate and independent position, there was not found our hos, member of the House to advocate her entering into such Confederation ; on the contrary the whole House were of opinion that, if Prince Edward Island sotered into the Confederation, she would mevitably be swamped by the weight of the debts of the other Provinces-that she would forfeit the right of self-government, and would besides, be creaked by the weight of excessive taxation. The hon, and learned gentleman then went protty tally into the history of heartest gentemms usen went prosty still into the natory of the Question of Confederation, from its laception up to the present time, for the purpose of showing that neither had the Scheme aver been favourably entertained by the Legislature. por had Legislative Authority ever been given to our Island Delegates to enter into any consideration of it, either in Charlottetown, at Halifax, or at Quebec, with a view to our becoming a party to it. Upon what grounds, then, he asked. would our Confederates say that the Report of the Quebec One erance was binding upon us, when even the appointment of Island Delegates by the Government had been made independently of Legislative sanction .- We were, indeed, only a amall Colony, but we were possessed of a free representative constitution; and we had quite as much right to retain it as bad the English to retain theirs. He had, however, yet to slearn that Great Britain would, so long as we continued true no outselver and firm in our allegiance to the British Crown. ever seek to deprive us of it. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick might derive great advantages from their Union with Canada, but not so Prince Edward Island, separated as she is from those Provinces, by an immoveable barrier of ice for five months in the year. Mr. Brown in Canada; in his advocacy of the Confederation Scheme, had said they wanted an outlet to the sea; and that, independently of Confederation, show could not obtain without going through another country. That was true enough. But what had Prince Edward Island anse was tree soough. Hut what pad Prince Edward Lidand to do with it? Canada's obtaining that outlet, by means of Confederation, would confer no benefit upin us. It was all safe fine to say we would, under Confederation, belong to a set couplry, and would consequently grow in weelsh and piortance; instead of being as we were, a little isolated toagaineart Colohy. at We already, said the ben, and learned stember, belong to magfast company -the greatest to the world and me have to desirate belong to any other. Great it tain will never cast us off so long as it shall be our wish to

remittly billies the promotion of her hap's and we seed friends in the third Reality per temperature is an extension, must not becalt research (per tem in the per temperature). The promotion to the manner of the per temperature to the per temperature to the per temperature to an extension to the per temperature to the pe

as not to rovolve the sacrifice of any material interests on the part of any Province; but insamuch as the people of Prince part of any. Frommer; that maximum swittle people 30. Frage floward lisland do not appear to be prapared to regard swith any favor the project of Confederation, it is unyiety to press to upon public attention, as its discussion is only calculated to for-duce accidemant and apprehension, without reasonable cadder

"AND FURTHE RRESOLVED, as the opinion of this House that there should be no vote passed by the Legislature of this country in favor of a Confederation of the Provinces until the people shall first be afforded an opportunity of pronouncing their judy ment on the question at a general Election."

The bon, gentleman then proceeded to say that he thought the question should not be pressed upon the people before they were educated up to it, and their judgment matured respecting it. As he had said to his own constituents, be did not think it was the duty or province of the Assembly giper to propouped in favor of Confederation, or to reject it. until the decision of the people should be fairly given, either for or against it, at the pulls. With all due deforence to the House, he begged leave to say, however, that he did not believe any decision, either for or against Confederation, on the part of Prince Edward Island, would materially affect the action or determiontion of the other Provinces concern ing it; and that, if they were favorable to it, Prince Ed ward Island would be placing before in a very absurd and ridiculous position by refusing to accede to it, But whilst the question appeared to be settled in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, and to be in a transition state in New Brunswick he thought our wisest course would be to leave it as it now stood, for the calm and deliberate consideration of the perple, until time and events should throw new light upon it, and, perhaps, bring new influences to bear upon their minds concerning it. He could not, however, for one moment, suppose, that provided the other Provinces were confederated Great Britain would allow Prince Edward Laland to retuain out of the Union, to be a source of weakness and annoyance to the Foderation, which, if she stood alone and aloof from it she most undoubted y would be He would then merely ask the Chairman to submu, the Resolution which he had proposed as an amendment to the Resolutions submitted by the Hou, the Leader of the Government abhough is had been his intention to speak to some other points of the name. tion. That intention be would then, however, forego; as another opportunity might, perhaps, be afforded bim of carfring it toto effect, and of repelling, at the same time the unjust, the unmanly, the cownidly instructions of bribs. corruption, and treachery, which had; by certain parties in the community, been thrown dut not buly agalost him. but against other gentlemen, demois of the Assembly who had, in common with himself, and in pursuance of their bonest onvictions concerning the question, been the orea and the definition of the second of the seco Segui de la companie wate't their confurmatators this question : Afe the Catholic Hierarchy of Nova Scotia, the Archbishop of Halifux, and the Bishop of Ariebat, who have pronounced in favor of Confederation --- are they "trainers?" Are they influenced by improper and corrupt motives in bringing this question favorably defore their fellow Colonists ? 4 bring this question before you and ask if it is your firm conviction that I, and others to a mach higher meeting than coverify should be designated as theirors. It is false and disboness in the highest degree to bring each an accusation sgainst us in the face of the contary and do not ask you. Sire I will not ask thateI will uskryom to allow me to use my own opinion, and becaused do advocate this measure impresendance with my honses toorsigtions, wherease Ethink this House should not place fiself in a position hostile to the British Government, or antagonistic to the course pursued by the other Colonies --- am I to be singled out for contamely? "I never, in the course of my partiamentary experience of 20 years, was madn the subject of so much culumpy-so many false acreusestions, as intreference to this question. I do not, as the Resolution which I have submitted shows, force my opinion on the country. I have not done so since I returned from we did not get as much as I, se one of the delegates, think we should have gos; but we got what I think should be accopted as a compromise, and I say now in the presence o this House, and of the country, that all the Delegates did agree to the terms there proposed, notwithsteading their disagreement afterwards as to matters of detail." When I returned from Quebec I was assailed because I stated this nale. able truth, and many times since, in such language as it is im possible for me to characterize. But I will allow that to pass. I do not seek to press the question upon the people. I do not wish that, without the most mature reflection that should accede to Confederation; but I do wish that before they decide eather for or against it, they may be fully ondightened concerning it; and I will ask this House not to pledge itself to any course concerning it until the penple shall have procounced concerning it at the polls. It is my right-a right which God has given me-to form my own opinion on all public questions, and I will ondeayour to exercise that right. But surely I and they who hold the same opinions as myself on the subject of Confederation ought dor, on account of those opinions, to be subjected to insult and persecution, most vile and most unjust, on the part of any who hold different opinions on that sub-100t. I ask you, Mr. Chairman, most respectfully - I ask this homorable Committee, - whether this system of perseontion whall continue to be practised? I appeal to the good manke and love of fair play which characterizes the members of this community, whether a man shall be silowed to have an opinion of his own or not? I do not object to this highes, appressing its disapproval of Confederation, without reference, to the Quebec Scheme, because that is thrown seide quibatrins degardato: the general plan of Confederation, thy opidiod to that whee Gulonies would semme great imporhones they wen Riobi sites willist and securify against foreign

the trause but I make the third as assessment where how the the the the third was the without sacr fieling the interests of shy, and talso providing that the people be perfectly prepared to secont it. "Any-House: If you pass the other Resolutions, which at very strong, it will not affect the question one way or the other. Let me tell you that the decision of a Colony of only 80,-000 inhabitable will have but very little effect in debiditor the fate of three and a balf millions of people, however much wohe exultemen may be under the impression that the other Provinces may be confederated and Prince Edward Island remain " out to the cold." The Confeditions of the United States took place under very peculiar pircumstances and Rhode Island, an isolated Province in small nearly as we are, although at first refusing to enter A. was yet; before long; very glad to seek admission into it. So, if a Pederation of the British North American Provinces take blace, and Prioce Edward Island be left out, will she in like manner, sue to be admitted into it. Would any offer tell me-and I put the question plainly-would the United States, if no Confederacy had taken place, have been so powerful a untion us they are to day? We are not senting a senaration from Great Britain, but to combine one strength, by which we may be able to resist aggression. whether from Poplanism or from any other quarter. Last year, we were told that the advocaby of this question was promature, because there was not the slightest probability of an interruption of the friendly relations existing between Great Britain and the United States on account of the Wenian organ sation : but now we know that the Penian organization, contemptible as it is, has been such as to resider it necessary, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to rake extraordinary precautions against its aggressions. In England a law has been passed suspeciting the Habeas Cormus Act in Ireland, because the Penian organization was supposed to have taken effect there. In the Colonies, extraordinary preparations have been made for resistance to any possible attacks on the part of that lawless association The resources of the several Colonies have been pledged for their individual defence. We were told, last year, that there was no necessity to propure for defence; but what do we see here this year? A ununimous vote phacing all the resources of the Colony at the disposal of the Government for the purpose of putting the Island in a position of de fence. What does that indicate? Is it not that our li berties are threatened? Does :t not indicate a feeling of Insecurity-a feeling that Prince Edward Island is not safe while those marauders threaten the invesion of the other Provinces? A gentleman in the other branch of the Legisbeture said, on a former occasion, that in the event of Confederation, if Canada was to be threatened by hostife invesion. the young men of Prince Edward Island would have to go and fight for that Province. I ask you was there ever such intolerable nonsense uttered by any man in his menses? Does any man suppose that the young men of this Talkind would have to be sent to the borders of Canada ?" No. 816 is was nouseuse sought to be imposed upon the prophe. "The fast is that, for twelve months past Canada has been exer-