

"I cannot now remember what took place in the Conference when that resolution passed, nor do my minutes show, as it was of very secondary importance when compared with many of the questions which were discussed."

It is a question whether this was of very secondary importance. But he goes on: "I was not present when the revised copy, engrossed on parchment, was signed by the delegation; but I signed alone some time afterwards upon the assurance of Colonel Barnard, the Secretary, that it was a true copy of what had been agreed upon." He signed on the sole authority of Mr. Barnard! on so large and important a measure without investigation! This letter is signed by Charles Fisher.

Here then it is distinctly proved that the Canadian delegates, without consulting any others who were equally interested in the Union proposed, altered this document, which was to be at once the bulwark and fortress of freedom.

It had been charged that the despatch received from the British Government was held back so as to send our delegation home, but he believed that had that despatch been laid before the House by the Government, it would have influenced a larger number to vote for that delegation. The Hon. Attorney General had explained this matter, but he (Mr. A.) was under the impression that it was not received till a day or two before the rising of the House, and after the delegation had been resolved on. Upon this he could not now be confident, but he was very strongly impressed that such was the case.

Hon. Mr. SMITH said that the despatch bore no date of its receipt, but he was sure it was but a few days before the rising of the House that it was laid before them.

Mr. ANGLIN continued—The despatch of the 12th July had been condemned in unmeasured terms, but what do the Government there put forth to call down the charge of disloyalty? They say:

"A large majority of the people of this Province are opposed to any closer political connection with Canada than that afforded by the office of a common allegiance to the British Crown, and consider that such union would have a decided tendency to weaken that dependence on the British Empire which they so highly prize, and would lead to the neglect and injury of their local interests."

And, he would ask, were we not better qualified to judge on these points than Mr. Cardwell? No man will venture to dispute that it was our right and duty to consult our own interests in the matter, and when Mr. Cardwell speaks of "just authority," though it may not be coercion, yet it was so near it that it became the duty of the Government to speak out and say, you may speak of "just authority," but we have rights upon which you cannot infringe without weakening that authority.

Again, the Government in their dispatch had said:

"When a wish is expressed by Her Majesty's Government, it will be received with that deference which is due to suggestions emanating from so high a source."

And again:

"They feel assured that Her Majesty's Government will expect and desire that the Government of this Province should act according to their own convictions of right, and in conformity with the sentiments of the people they represent."

When the resolutions were first sent home, Mr. Cardwell had complained of some of the provisions, and yet now he was anxious to thrust it upon us, and well had he expressed his own and Mr. Bright's view, which were, that we should be thrown off on our own resources and made to provide our own means of defence. The disposition of this people is to hold on to the land they love, but he looked upon the carrying out of this scheme as the first stepping stone to annexation. When he heard in the Legislative hall of Canada the statement of one of their members, that he had done much for that Province, and at length had "brought these Colonies to the threshold of independence," he knew that the whole scheme pointed to this result. On their late trip to Canada, they were at the small town of Tecumseh, and learning that Mr. Cartier was also there, he (Mr. A.) called on him to pay his respects. In the course of the conversation, Mr. Cartier asked: "What do you say to the dispatches down in the Lower Provinces?" He replied that we were now almost dispatch proof. Mr. Cartier said: "Oh, but you must come in." He answered that we should not come in if we found it was not to our advantage. Mr. C. replied: "Oh, but wait a few weeks till after Smith gets back, and see what dispatches you will get." Mr. Anglin said he did not know, to which he replied, "But I know." Here, then, was the source from whence the dispatches came—these dispatches which were put forth as the *ipsum verbum*, the sacred word of Her Majesty, when it was more than probable Her Majesty had never even seen the despatch. It is well understood that the Queen can do no wrong, and herein consists the disloyalty and the treason, for instead of making the Minister of the Colonial Office responsible for these acts they desire to turn the point back upon the throne itself; and what, he would ask, is the good of constitutional liberties if such action is to be tolerated. When the Government received that despatch from Mr. Cardwell, preceded as it had been by all that previously had been said and done, they felt themselves to be in a perilous position. Was it any wonder that they sat down and carefully, calmly and seriously took the matter in hand, and in speaking to Mr. Cardwell to speak in unmistakable language to the people of Canada. Not in the midst of drunken revelry, but as to slow, solemn and earnest work, they sat themselves down to the task. And now he would ask, was there in that Memorandum of Council one word derogatory to the Queen; if there was, he was willing to go on his knees and recall it; but there was none, and in all his public or private life since his coming to the country, he challenged any one to say that he had committed an act that was derogatory to its character or damaging to the best interests of this Province, and once more he would express the pride and satisfaction he felt that his name was appended to that document.

The House and Debate were then adjourned.

As I have been called to take the position of Official Reporter, suddenly vacated by Mr. A. cher, and as I am conscious of having done far less than justice to this portion of Mr. Anglin's speech, I may say that not having followed the debate through its windings, and coming in in the middle of a speech abounding with allusions to what had preceded it, it was almost impossible that I should be in a position to report with that correctness and precision that an accurate acquaintance with the other speeches would have given.

J. MARCH.

Official Reporter.

[ERRATA.—On 90th page, 20th line from top of 2nd column, read Mr. HILL said—By the amendment, &c.

T. P. D.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 7.

On motion of Mr. COSTIGAN, the House went into Committee on "A Bill to encourage the exploration of vacant Crown Lands and the discovery of Timber Berths thereon." After some discussion, progress was reported, and the Bill referred to a Select Committee.

Further progress was made on "A Bill to authorise the Woodstock Railway Company to issue debentures."

ADJOURNED DEBATE ON MR. FISHER'S AMENDMENT.

Mr. ANGLIN.—Before I begin, I will express my regret at having occupied the attention of the House so long. I felt, and still feel, that the debate has hung on so long that it is so rarely warrantable to protract it, but some of the hon. members wanted explanations of various kinds, which so interrupted me as rendered it impossible for me to get through yesterday. I do not want to complain of it, but I bring it forward as an excuse for taking up the time to-day. I concluded last evening with drawing your attention to a despatch from Mr. Cardwell, and was endeavouring to show what there was to justify us in entreating some doubts as to the exact meaning of the despatch. There was nothing ungentlemanly or uncourteous in our conduct in expressing such doubts. I would like to have you point out to me what paragraph—what sentence—what line, or what word there is in that Memorandum in which there is any thing disloyal or any thing that evinces disrespect. True, we alluded to the *Times* newspaper, but we knew that those Canadian delegates were in England plotting against the liberties of this country, and we knew they had with them extraordinary resources to enable them to do so. We found in that paper false statements which had originated in this Province, but had been copied in that leading paper of the world, and made the foundation of newspaper articles; we believed these articles were inspired by those Canadian delegates, and Mr. Cardwell and the members of the Imperial Parliament