

he did not see that the country would benefit one farthing from the abolition of the duty on flour in Newfoundland; but, as had been stated, the reverse. (Hear, hear.) Hon. gentlemen seemed to take it for granted that Ontario and Quebec were at a loss for a market. Such he would assure them was not the case. In grain, what they needed a market for was coarse grains, and these were precisely the articles not wanted in Newfoundland. Again, the Finance Minister argued that our woollen manufacturers would get a market in this island, but his (Mr. Mackenzie's) impression was that the bulk of these goods would be put on the market by those having an interest in a return cargo from England. The hon. gentleman indicated that on concurrence he would indicate his views on some matters connected with the resolutions, which he would not touch till then. At present he would merely say that, so far as he could do so conscientiously, he would aid in accomplishing the Union, but hold himself as a free agent in that matter, allowing himself to be bound by no conditions whatever. Having replied at some length to the member for Westmorland, and argued that New Brunswick had no reason for complaint as to being unfairly dealt with in the arrangements under Confederation, the hon. gentleman closed by expressing his regret that, in debating this subject, the House had not been in possession of full detailed information respecting the Colony about to be annexed.

Hon. Mr. Rose referred to the tables of exports from Newfoundland, to show that the amount of fish now exported to us was insignificant, and there was therefore no foundation for the argument of the member for Lambton, with reference to return freights.

Hon. Mr. Tupper expressed his gratification at this further step towards the consummation of the great scheme which originated at the Quebec Conference. He took issue with the member for West Durham, when that hon. gentleman asserted that the House was not in any way bound by the terms agreed to at the Quebec Conference with regard to Newfoundland. These terms had received the approval of the people throughout the Dominion, and the terms now submitted with reference to Newfoundland were substantially the same as those agreed to by the Conference. The action of the Conference was endorsed by the people, when the Ministry, at the subsequent election, were sustained by a great majority, and, as part of the scheme so approved, it was agreed that the Dominion should assume

[Mr. Mackenzie—M. Mackenzie.]

En outre, le ministre des Finances prétend que l'Île offrira un débouché à nos fabricants de lainages, mais M. Mackenzie a l'impression que presque toutes ces marchandises seront commercialisées par ceux qui ont intérêt à recevoir en retour une cargaison d'Angleterre. Il se prononcera plus tard sur les résolutions. Pour le moment il se contente d'aider, dans la mesure du possible, à réaliser l'Union tout en restant indépendant sur cette question et en n'acceptant aucune condition. En répondant assez longuement au député de Westmorland, il déclare que le Nouveau-Brunswick n'a aucune raison de se plaindre d'un traitement injuste dans la Confédération, et il conclut en regrettant que la Chambre n'ait pas eu tous les renseignements nécessaires sur la Colonie que l'on veut annexer.

L'hon. M. Rose, évoquant le tableau des exportations de Terre-Neuve, montre que les quantités de poisson que l'on nous vend sont insignifiantes, si bien que les déclarations du député de Lambton au sujet du transport de marchandises aller et retour ne sont pas fondées.

L'hon. M. Tupper exprime sa satisfaction que l'on se soit encore rapproché de la réalisation du projet grandiose mis sur pied à la Conférence de Québec. Il contredit le député de Durham-Ouest lorsque celui-ci affirme que la Chambre n'est nullement tenue de respecter les modalités d'action vis-à-vis de Terre-Neuve arrêtées par la Conférence de Québec. Ces conditions avaient été approuvées par l'ensemble de la population du Dominion et celles qui ont été soumises maintenant sont, dans l'ensemble, les mêmes que celles qui avaient été arrêtées par la Conférence. Les décisions de la Conférence avaient été sanctionnées par le peuple qui, lors des élections suivantes, avaient reconduit le Gouvernement à une large majorité; or une partie de cet accord prévoyait notamment que le Dominion