

justice to his constituents, to resign his seat and allow them the privilege of again giving an expression of their opinion on the Quebec Scheme; this, he thought, would be much better than for him to advocate a measure that they sent him to oppose. (Hear, hear.) But he would tell this House that he had not changed his mind in reference to Confederation; he was as much opposed to the Quebec Scheme now as he was when he was elected twelve months ago; he was as determined to vote against it now as he was when he came here last session, and in doing so he was doing neither more nor less than carrying out the views and the wishes of his constituents. When hon. members talked about the influences that were used at the last general election, he could tell them that he had not forgot the influences—the Canadian influences—that were used in the Northern Counties. The hon. member from Victoria (Mr. Costigan) alluded the other day to the Canadian officials that came into his County during the election; enquiring about the prices of lime, railway sleepers, and material for constructing the Inter-Colonial Railway; he could tell his hon. friend, and he could tell the House, that this influence was used in the Northern Counties also, but he was glad to say that in his County the Canadian influence did not succeed.

It had been stated that the *Times* advocates the Quebec Scheme; that the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Cardwell, is strongly in favor of Confederation, and that Her Majesty the Queen is anxious to see the British North American Provinces united. He (Mr. Young) had not the slightest doubt about this, he knew that Union was desirable, and he had no objections to a Union of the Provinces, provided the interests of New Brunswick were protected; otherwise he would not consent to Union. With the permission of the House he would read an article he had copied from the *Times* some time ago, in which that paper criticised the Quebec Scheme, viz:—

"But the most important clause in the whole Resolution, and unfortunately by no means the easiest to understand, is the one which defines the powers of the Central Federative Legislature. By Resolution 29, the General Parliament shall have power to make laws for the peace, welfare and good government of the Federated Provinces, owning the Sovereignty of England, and especial laws respecting the following subjects. Then follow thirty-six heads of legislation, and a thirty-seventh, which is as follows: And generally respecting all matters of a general character not specially and exclusively reserved for the Local Governments and Legislatures. We cannot find that the Local Legislatures have any exclusive power of legislation given them. They have power, by the 43rd Resolution, to make laws respecting seventeen subjects, the eighteenth being:—And generally matters of a private or local nature, not assigned to the General Parliament. It is exceedingly difficult to construe these provisions. First, general powers of legislation are given especially to make laws on thirty-seven subjects, one of those being all matters of a general character, not exclusively reserved to the Local Legisla-

tures. *Nothing is exclusively reserved to Local Legislatures, and it would seem, therefore, that the effect of this clause is to cut the power of Central Legislation down to matters of a general character—a most vague and unsatisfactory definition, and one sure, if it be retained, to produce conflict and confusion.*"

He (Mr. Young) stated that this was an extract from the London *Times*, which he had found in the St. John *Telegraph*, of the 7th Dec., 1864, which paper, he believed, was opposed to Union at that time, but, from some cause or other that he did not know, had since gone over. If the opinion of the *Times* was worthy of consideration, and if its statement in reference to the Quebec Scheme was reliable, it went to prove that the scheme was nothing but a mass of confusion, and in his opinion we ought to reject it, and should not adopt it under any consideration. These were his views with regard to the scheme, and it was surely his duty as an opponent of this scheme to support this Government. Unless it could be shown that they had not discharged their duty faithfully, or been recreant to their duty, he would support them; he had no hesitation in stating that he believed this Government had carried on the administration of the country in accordance with the well understood wishes of the people, and, therefore, were entitled to the confidence and support of honorable members.

His hon. friend from Restigouche (Mr. McMillan) the other day, in complaining that the Northern Counties had not sufficient representation in the Government, stated: "How could any member from the North Shore support them or vote for them." He (Mr. Young) would tell the hon. member that he had no desire to ignore the right of the people of the North Shore from being represented at the Executive Council Board, and he did think that the Northern Counties ought to have more representation in the Government than they have at present. But he would ask the hon. member, in what position had the North placed itself on the question of Confederation? Take the Counties of Restigouche, Northumberland and Gloucester, and what would they find? They would find that out of thirty members elected at the last general election to oppose the Quebec Scheme, and the three Counties that he had just named had sent but three anti-Confederates, viz: the Hon. Mr. Hutchison, his colleague (Mr. Meehan) and himself. The former was called to the Executive; and without knowing the intentions of the Government in the matter, he would undertake to say that, if they had been disposed to take his colleague or himself into the Government, it could not have been done in consequence of the Scrutiny that was pending against them. He (Mr. Young) referred to this to show hon. members from the Northern Counties that if the people of the North Shore had not the representation in the Government that they ought to have, they have only themselves to blame. And, while he was upon this subject, he would do the Hon. Mr. Hutchison the justice to say that, notwithstanding the abuse that gentleman had received from a portion of the Opposition press, and notwithstanding the remarks, the other day, of the ex-Surveyor General, that he (Mr. Hutchison) had no political experience, and, con-

sequently, was unfit to represent the North Shore alone. He would tell the hon. member that the interests of the Northern Counties during the past year had not been neglected. They had received just as much money for their bye roads, and great roads, and public works as when the late Government were in power. He (Mr. Young) had not forgot that, during the years 1863 and 1864, how difficult it was to get a steamer for the North Shore; that notwithstanding all the political experience and ingenuity of his hon. friend, the ex-Surveyor General, it could not be done. The people's representatives were put off from time to time by being told that a steamer could not be got—that they were all down South during the war. But how did it happen that the Acadia was not engaged? She was built by a company at Sorel, in Canada, expressly with a view of being put on the North Shore; but the Government of which his hon. friend was a member would not engage her. He (Mr. Young) referred to this to show that when the North was represented by gentlemen who claimed to possess great political knowledge, the local requirements of the North were not better attended to than when they are now.

With reference to the charges that had been made against this Government by the leader of the Opposition and his followers, he could only say that they were not sustained; it was not necessary for him to refer to them, for they had been ably answered by the Attorney General and the Provincial Secretary. He believed the Opposition have been premature in their movements; they want to turn out the Government before they have time to lay before this House an account of their stewardship; they do not want to wait until the reports from the several heads of Departments are laid on the table. Their cry is, "Turn them out, turn them out, they are a parcel of loafers and traitors." And in their great anxiety to turn them out they have acted imprudently, and (if the term was not unparliamentary) had acted like office seekers, and he had no doubt they (the Opposition) had brought upon themselves the indignation of every lover of fair play and justice in the country. He would vote against the amendment.

Mr. WILLISTON said, before going into the general questions he would touch upon a few of the matters that had come up during the course of the debate. A great deal of irrelevant matter had been thrown into the discussion, and a great deal said about the York election, but he could not see what that had to do with the question. It seemed to him the whole aim of Mr. Fisher's colleagues was to break him down. The Hon. Chief Commissioner had, in his speech, directed the weight of his attack against that gentleman, and he had been followed by his friend, Mr. Fraser, who had also attacked Mr. Fisher with great severity and serimony. He thought that it would be much more dignified if the members of York had settled their disputes about the election outside, and not have brought them before the Legislature. He was very sorry that the Provincial Secretary, for whom he personally had the greatest regard, and in whom he had unbounded confidence, should so far have forgotten his dignity as to have thrown the weight of his position on the side of the attack against Mr. Fisher. Mr. Fisher he had always found courteous, kind and affable.