

that he was not unfavorable to Confederation under certain provisions, but when he came to the House he went directly against it. He seems to take every opportunity day and night, in the House and out of it, to alarm the people as to the future prospects of this country, which he characterizes as dark and gloomy and perilous, and all that. It is true the state of trade is dull at present, but we are looking to the Union to aid in a material degree, in relieving the distress which at present is felt in certain quarters, and there is no necessity at all to picture out the future as all darkness and ruin. As to the Senators. It seems that a paper in Canada has a representative in England who has telegraphed out the names as contained in the proclamation, so far as regards Canada; but we have not incurred that expense and therefore are not yet in a position to make known who have been appointed. As to the Chief Commissioner of the Board of Works being able, under the Act, to hold his seat, it is my private opinion that there is nothing to prevent his doing so till the first of July, the day on which the Union will be consummated; yes, Mr. Chairman, that he can do so just as legally as the hon. member for Westmorland, whose name, I may tell him, is not in the Proclamation.

Mr. SMITH.—No, it is not in the Proclamation, for the Secretary is well aware that I would take no favors at their hands, and if they had asked me to have it put on, I should not have allowed it. The Secretary says that I changed my opinion on Confederation; but, Mr. Chairman, I have answered that charge over and over again. He knows very well that the paragraph in the Speech was put there by the Governor, who said the Government were not responsible for it, but he expressed the sentiments which he was authorized to do by instructions from the Mother Country. But why should he refer to this? He knows the backstairs influence which was used to get that inserted, and that it reflects no credit on the parties engaged in it. He says I changed my opinion. I deny it. But he went to England an anti-confederate, and returned a Confederate. I went an Anti, and returned an Anti. When I think of what was done to oust the Government of which I was a member, I can scarcely restrain my feelings. The administration of the Secretary was a stain and a blot upon the history of this Province. And when out of power he used all sorts of treachery and backstairs influence to get in again. They worked with Governor Gordon in the tyrannical course he pursued towards the people of this country, but I should like to know the opinion of the Government on Governor Gordon now. I am willing to go back to the people on the questions then

at issue, and leave the verdict with them.

The Secretary talks about the great benefits which Union are going to confer upon us, and of the good times that are coming. I hope the result will be as satisfactory as he depicts, but I say the signs of the times indicate that troublous times are coming. I am surprised that he should treat with levity the opinions of such a man as D'Arcy McGee, who he knows speaks the opinions of the Government of which he is a member; and he says that a Legislative Union is inevitable, and that very shortly. The Secretary says I was in favor of a Legislative Union, but I never was. I was always of the opinion that no Union with Canada could be obtained that would be fair and equitable for us. Here we are now on the very verge of Union, and we are to pay \$50,000 for a Governor General, and other expenses of Government greater than is required to carry on the affairs of the United States. The Secretary has referred to Joe How, but does not tell us what is so very objectionable that he has said. He is one of the most eminent men in British North America, and his voice will resound in the Halls of Ottawa—they can't keep him out—and a large number of his friends will be with him.

He has ever been loyal to the British Crown—none more so. His speeches have ever breathed a spirit of loyalty and devotion, and what does the Secretary mean? As to Nova Scotia we shall soon see how many of the men who have betrayed their country can be returned by the people. Yes, I believe the people will rise in their might and show who it is that have the power. Never were a people so betrayed and trampled on in the history of the world as have been the people of Nova Scotia. The Secretary says that day and night, in the House and out, I take every opportunity of opposing Union. How does he know? has he pimps about me at night? I don't know, but it seems that everything I do and say becomes known to the Secretary. He says that I was in favor of dual representation; what I said was that I had not seen the Act, but that the members of Government in Canada were urging it strongly on their friends, and I supposed the practice would be uniform in all the Provinces. As to Mr. Howe, no one ever heard or saw anything in him approaching disloyalty, but the Secretary knows that when the question of loyalty is touched upon, a throb of excitement and feeling is felt by the people, and they are all ready to go in and show it at all risks. But Mr. Howe is now a private gentleman, without official capacity at all, and should not be named. It is very different with Mr. McGee. He is a public officer, high in the confidence of the Government, and so such when he

speaks he speaks the language and feelings, and sentiments of, the Government. The Secretary says that all he asks for is that the militia should be put in a more efficient state, but it is not so. His idea is to organize a standing army, and keep it up by the services of the able bodied strength of the community. The Secretary refers to the three or four days formerly spent in drilling our people, and says they would be willing to do it again.

But we all know that those occasions of muster produced nothing but vice and immorality; and I would ask ere we go back to such times? Is history to repeat itself? That old practice was a burden on the people, they rejoiced when they were relieved from it, and have no desire to have it imposed upon them again. The Secretary says there is no cause for alarm. That is a very different cry than was raised when the Fenians were on the border. It was said they came down in the interest of the Anti, and declared themselves their friends, when they, by that very statement, cut our throats, and played a very important part generally in the election contest. He says that I oppose whatever comes up, but I think I have shown a great deal of forbearance all through the Session. I have tried to get information upon certain points, but the Government seem afraid to let the public know anything at all. And see the cowardice and pusillanimity they displayed in withdrawing a Bill which they had put before the House and country. The Attorney General said he was going to press the Bill, but he has told an untruth—it has been withdrawn. And what have the Government been doing? I know some of them have been enjoying themselves pretty well; but where is the Report of the Chief Commissioner of the Board of Works? Where is the Postmaster General's Report? Where is the Report of the Surveyor General? All the accounts are closed down to the 31st October, and one would suppose they had plenty of time to make them up by the time the House meets; but here the Session is well advanced, and scarcely any of the Government Reports before us. Some of them have been away in England, and it is said they met with a very hearty reception, but where have the rest been? I came up here once, and there was not a single member of the Government to be found. Mr. Fulton was the governing power then. As to this Bill, as I said before, I think it will prove beneficial, but if, in speaking upon this or any other question, I see fit to touch upon other matters affecting the general welfare of the public, I shall do so without asking permission of the Secretary.

Mr. BECKWITH.—This discussion is taking a much wider range than I sup-