

barriers between the Provinces should be removed, that we should be enabled to extend our trade, and enlarge our enterprise? If we have manufactures in the country is it not for our benefit that they should be extended? Will it hurt us to have plenty of customers? We have manufactures in this country, and all we need is that we should have a large market and more field for our enterprise. Why did we agree to the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States? Was it not to get a wider field of operations? And if we, with a population of 250,000, can sustain manufactures, could we not do it much better if we were 4,000,000? How then can it be that we should be ruined commercially, by this Union? And now for the resolutions themselves. The third clause of the preamble says "Whereas, the loyalty and attachment of the people of this Province to the Throne and Government of Great Britain cannot justly be impugned, &c." Now this is a most extraordinary proposition and one that I cannot understand. It reminds me of a saying of the hon. President of the Council, that for a man to be always speaking of his honesty looks as though there was some cause to doubt it. This very talk about our loyalty tends to cast a doubt on it. Satisfy the British Government! Conciliate the British Government! What for? Because we are Antis? Is this why we grant a sum of \$30,000 for our militia, and again are called on to pay for delegates to go home to tell the people of England what they know as well as we do? But I will go on "And whereas, in the exercise of the right of internal self-government enjoyed by this Province, its people are entitled to deliberate and decide upon all questions affecting their own local interests in such manner as to them may seem best calculated to promote their prosperity and welfare, &c." What evidence is there before the House that the British Government intend to deprive us of Responsible Government, or self-government? for this is the only inference that can be drawn from this paragraph.

Mr. CUDLIP.—I will just explain. It was contemplated to carry out the Union of the Colonies by chicanery, by a jolting, by deception, and by bribery in high places, the same as it was in Ireland when she was united to England. But the people of this Province were too wide awake for them, and decided against their plotting.

Mr. McMILLAN.—The hon. member says the country has decided against Confederation, and now I ask him to justify the grounds on which he asks the House to send delegates home. If any thing more is necessary why not shew by an Address to Her Majesty, or by sending home a copy of the public Journals what has been the result. After admitting that the question is dead, and knowing what the vote of this House will be, to ask for delegates to be appointed, appears to me to be a very childish thing. The hon. member for Charlotte (Mr. Boyd) says he is in favour of a Union of the Maritime Provinces. I would ask him what advantages will this give us that the large ones would not confer?

Hon. Mr. ANGLIN.—Fifty times as many.

Mr. McMILLAN.—If it is an advantage to get into connection with 300,000 or 400,000, would not the advantages be still greater if we were to join ourselves to 3,000,000 or 4,000,000? It has been stated that the delegates had no right to meet in Conference on a Union with the

other Colonies, when it is well known that by a despatch from the Imperial Government to the Governor of Nova Scotia on this question, power was given to the Governor General to call them together for this very purpose. Mr. Cardwell also says in his despatch to the Lieut. Governor, "with the sanction of the Crown, &c., they assembled." But apart from all this I dissent from this objection on general principles. I believe that men should meet together to confer upon subjects pertaining to the welfare of the whole of the Provinces. A great deal has been said about the manner in which the delegation was carried on; it is said they had champagne, and a jolly time of it, and yet those who condemned the meeting of these delegates, want now to send other delegates home to go through the same. But Mr. Cardwell's eulogy on the men who composed that delegation, and the manner in which they carried on their proceedings is quite sufficient justification of the course they pursued. What does he say? "Animated by the warmest sentiments of loyalty, and devotion to their Sovereign, earnestly desirous to secure for their posterity throughout all future time, the advantages which they enjoy as subjects of the British Crown; steadfastly attached to the institutions under which they live, they have conducted their deliberations with patient sagacity, and have arrived at unanimous conclusions on questions involving many difficulties, and calculated under less favorable auspices to have given rise to many differences of opinion." Such an event is in the highest degree honorable to those who have taken part in these deliberations. It must inspire confidence in the men by whose judgment and temper this result has been attained. Another ground taken by my hon. friend from Charlotte (Mr. Boyd), was that our own men should not be appointed to the Governor's chair. What! I would ask, is not the hon. President of the Council able to fill that position? I say that we have men who are able not only to fill the office, but who are able to teach the Governors who are sent out to us, so that they go home better and wiser men than when they came out. But apart from this there are objects that should animate us with a spirit of progress. What is the cry of England? "Free trade, free trade with the world," and this should be our motto, not as I said the other day, to build a china wall around us and crop us up in our little egg shell, and call all outside us barbarians. This is not the principle of the day; this should not be our policy, but to enter into an alliance that will enable us to have free trade with our neighbours; and this Union of the Provinces, I maintain, would be commercially the best step we could take. I have already gone into the figures and shown that financially we should have been much better off, and I shall not now take up any more of the time of the House, but hold myself ready to answer any thing that may be brought up as the debate proceeds.

Hon. Mr. ANGLIN.—The hon. ex-Surveyor General has worked himself up into a fervor on this subject, which I confess I do not experience. I feel an apathy and coldness on this question, for so much has been said and heard upon it that all must be tired of it. The hon. member in all his long speech has brought out nothing new—nothing but what has been refuted a thousand times. Last Session this House appointed delegates to confer as to the feasibility of a Union of the

Lower Provinces. They met at Charlotte-town, and although possibly deliberating a few days they did nothing but wait for the Canadian delegates to propose another Union. It is evident from the whole proceedings that they all went there prepared to go into the larger Scheme. The Canadians came down in a steamer, and then commenced a round of festivities which ended by giving to us a Scheme by which our rights and revenues were to be bartered away for ever. In the meantime we find a most insignificant body in St. John—the Chamber of Commerce—insignificant in numbers and influence—we find them set to work by some secret influence, inviting not any Commercial body like themselves, but the whole of the Legislature of Canada, on their own responsibility, to pay us a visit. We know that when the invitation reached Canada the Legislature was in the last throes of dissolution. After awhile the matter was renewed, and some of the members of the new House came down. They were received with that hospitality and kindly treatment which strangers always receive in St. John, and at a dinner given in their honor at Stubbs' Hotel, although I did not wish to speak, I was called on, and in a most guarded manner told them that they need not imagine from the demonstrations of the people, that they were all in favor of a Union with Canada. The delegates, if such they may be called, for they only claim to have acted on a despatch which had been received from the Imperial Government some years before, when they returned from Canada soon let us know that falsehood and misrepresentation were the engines to be used in this country to forward the Scheme. We were at first told that the people were not to be informed as to what had been done, till the Scheme had been sent to England, and come out again; it would have been a breach of etiquette to let the people, who were most interested, know anything about it till it had been laid before the Imperial Cabinet; and there is no doubt at all but that it was intended to withhold all particulars till the House met, and then to force it through before time could be given for the people or their representatives to think on the matter. A gentleman who has done much for Confederation asked the Provincial Secretary whether they intended to submit it to the people, or to push it through the House, and he replied that it had not yet been decided. Rumour said that the question did come up in the Council, and that Mr. McMillan the then hon. Surveyor General was the only one who said it ought to be submitted. They then determined at once to dissolve the House, and have a new election. I think it is hardly fair for those who then forced an election on the country, and made the people travel for miles through snow and mud to hear them expound their pet Scheme, to charge their failure on the ignorance of the people, especially as they did all they could to enlighten them. Then the statements that were put forth by the different delegates were most contradictory. One of them in Carleton County told the people that the Intercolonial Railroad was to come down past Woodstock, and another over at the North Shore made a very different statement, intimating it would come by their doors. One said it would pass down the West Side of the River St. John, and another that it would take the Central route for the especial benefit of King's. And even in St. John the two delegates on the same platform could not agree in