

believed, at less than a week's notice. The subject of Confederation was one which had not heretofore engaged much of the attention of the public men of this country, whilst it had been before the Legislatures of the adjoining provinces for years. These gentlemen, therefore, went under great disadvantages, but the ability which they had displayed at the conference reflected credit upon themselves and our Government, in their judicious selection. The Solicitor General had complained that our fisheries were to be under the control of the General Government. He (Mr. W.) considered it the best thing that could happen. Then we might hope for some legislation which would result in their encouragement and protection. We had attempted legislation as regards our cod-fishery, and had done nothing. We had enacted laws respecting our salmon and herring fisheries, which were a dead letter upon our statute book, because we had no means to provide for sufficient superintendence and police regulations to carry these laws into execution; and the result is that our salmon fishery is all but destroyed, and our other fisheries are declining. How unfavourably did our action regarding our fisheries contrast with the policy adopted by Canada, notwithstanding that in Canada they were only a minor staple of industry, whilst in this country our fisheries were all we had at present to rely upon. A reference to the annual report for 1863 of the superintendents of the Canadian fisheries will show their watchful anxiety over this branch of industry. The report is in a pamphlet of some 76 pages, closely printed, containing much that is of deep interest to ourselves. Here we have from the pen of one of these Superintendents a scientific view—the full description of every fish found in Canadian waters, seas and rivers; accurate statistical information as to the general products, and as to each particular branch; vessels, boats and men, where and how engaged, and in fact most elaborate details of all that is interesting concerning the subject. We find that the whole produce of the Canadian fisheries in the Gulf and Lower St. Lawrence in 1863, including seal and whale oil, was \$329,160, and that the amount expended in superintending, encouragement and protection, was \$30,653 or over £6000 sterling, the amount paid by the Canadian Government in bounties, for one year, is over \$9000. They have made Gaspe a free port, solely with a view to the encouragement of their fisheries; in fact, so fully alive do they seem to be to the advantages which must flow from a warlike effort over this interest that nothing appears left undone in order to develop it. He (Mr. W.) would take the liberty of reading a paragraph from this report of Pierre Fortin, Esq., showing that although some in this country are under the impression that Canada can supply nothing for our fisheries, the French and others are of a different opinion.

"The port of Gaspé has had this year the visit of three foreign men-of-war. First the French steam corvette *Le Marceau*, carrying 8 guns, Commander Vavin, came during the month of July, to take on board Mr. le Baron Guindre Boileau, French Consul, who was proceeding to study on the spot the resources of the country bordering the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, with the intention of creating, or rather developing the trade with the French possessions of Newfoundland; and it is by making better known to the French merchants and outfitters the different kinds of produce supplied by Canada and the other British provinces, in order to supply the numerous wants of their immense fisheries, and establishing the articles the can give in exchange, that this desirable end can be attained in a safer manner. There is no doubt but that this trip of Mr. Boileau, whose intelligence and capacity have been so well appreciated in Canada, will produce in a future period advantages as results to the trade of our country, as well as to that of France."

"The United States armed schooner *George Magruder*, Commander Collins, (carrying 7 guns and a crew of 70 men), which, according to rumour, had cruised during a while in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, expecting to meet cruisers from the Confederate States, also came in the basin of Gaspe, but remained only a few days. This vessel was of nearly the same tonnage as *La Canadienne*.

"Lastly, His Majesty Victor Emmanuel's frigate, the *San Giovanni*, of 28 guns, Commander Count Fratelli Bruno, with a crew of 360 men, stayed there from the middle of August till the end of September. The population welcomed this vessel with pleasure, for it was seen that her presence was a proof that the principal branch of trade of this part of Canada, that of cod-fish, had, since a few years, by its extensive development, drawn the attention of foreign countries, and especially Italy, where so great a quantity of our dried fish is consumed.

"Already an Italian consulate had been established last year at Gaspe Basin, and Mr. Horatio LeBoutillier had been chosen to fill this important post. To the advantageous information respecting our country furnished by this gentleman to the Italian Minister of Commerce, is mainly due the presence of the *San Giovanni* in our waters.

"The commander of the frigate understood at once the importance and wealth of our maritime fisheries, and he intends to make them known to his Government in a special report, in which he will show, amongst other things, the advantage for Italian vessels to come and purchase at our free port of Gaspe a part of the codfish they require, and bring us in exchange the products of their country, such as olive oil, dried and preserved fruits, and especially hemp, which is cultivated on a large scale in the centre of Italy, and of which we already make a considerable use in Canada since the establishment of cable factories.

"Mr. Horatio LeBoutillier had especially drawn the attention of the Italian Government to the advantage for the war vessels of their country, stationed on the shores of North America, to buy their provisions in our ports; this was done for the frigate *San Giovanni*, which bought at Gaspe or at Montreal, through the agency of the Italian Consul, provisions, and a good deal of other stores, for a six months' cruise, amounting to \$12,000; the good quality and cheapness of which was well appreciated by the commissariat on board.

"The urbanity and politeness of the commander Count Fratelli Bruno, and the steadiness of his crew, won the esteem and the respect of the whole population of Gaspe, and he, the commander, gave hopes that our maritime shores, and especially the port of Gaspe, would again, next year, be visited by one of his Majesty's frigates; and no doubt that when the route will be so well traced, merchant vessels from Italy will hasten to follow."

The report concludes as follows:—

"I will conclude by stating that our fisheries are, compared to what they formerly were, in a state of prosperity, thanks to the liberal encouragement and efficient protection of the Government, and I hope that this encouragement, either in the shape of bounties, or free ports, will not fail, so that the fisheries may soon acquire a development which will cause them to be considered all over the country as one of the largest and most productive industries of Canada."

The Canadians are fostering, in every way possible, their fisheries, whilst we are asleep and a lowing our dependence to be destroyed without an effort to sustain it. Compare this able report with the meagre documents which emanate from our friend who goes to the Labrador in little cutter every summer; and the sum expended by the Canadians, with the paltry £500 which is all we afford to lay out in protecting

this all important interest. If, then, the Canadians are now so zealous in promoting their fisheries, was there not ample reason to believe that the same policy would dictate the action of the Confederate Government, particularly when we consider how deeply concerned in the same direction are the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia with their extensive fisheries. But out of the Confederacy, what would be our condition in relation to foreign countries where existed our principal fish markets? Is it not likely that every effort would be made to benefit so important an interest in the adjoining provinces, when they would bring the powerful influence of a great Confederacy, backed by Great Britain, to bear, in order to procure advantages; and is it at all probable that we should be admitted to share in those privileges whilst we remained separate and opposed to them? We were evidently impotent of ourselves, as to advancing this interest; and the sooner we had assistance, the sooner we should progress. It had been stated that this project of Confederation had its origin in a fear, on the part of Canada, of invasion from the United States. Whether this was true or not, it mattered little what was the immediate cause of the scheme. The time, he (Mr. W.) believed, had arrived, when these Colonies were bound to provide towards their defence. Nay more, there was a resolution on the Journals of the House, by which the country was pledged to do so. But supposing Canada was attacked, should we not be bound at the call of Great Britain, to go to her assistance, whether united under Confederacy or not? Even, for our own safety, should we not be obliged to do so? If Canada became a prey to the United States, we may rest assured that we should soon follow; and certainly, should we now refuse to adopt a measure highly approved by the British Government, and prefer remaining in our selfish isolation, we could hardly expect that Great Britain would make such exertions to preserve our Island, as some gentlemen had said, "as a bright jewel in the Imperial Crown." We, no doubt thought a great deal of ourselves; but in reality, we were very small. Why, last year Great Britain had sent nearly double our population as emigrants to other countries. In case of war between Great Britain and the United States now; from whence would we obtain our supplies of provisions? Some would say—from Europe, as we did in days gone by. But what would we have to pay for them? By confederacy we were building up within ourselves a grand emporium, from whence to supply our requirements, regardless of the tumults which might convulse other nations. He (Mr. W.) would take the liberty of reading a passage from the Colonial Presbyterian and St. John N. B. Courier, interesting upon this subject. The former says—"In a political point of view, every one will admit that other things being equal, union, unless physical and geographical considerations hinder, would be desirable. Now it cannot be denied, and no candid reasoner will deny, that in Federation we should have to contend with serious physical difficulties, but it might give the ability to help to 'annihilate time and space,' and make five Federated provinces 'happy.' Defence must gain by centralization; it must gain by British cooperation with colonial spirit and manliness, and, if need be, sacrifice.—We have a country which we should provide from anarchy within, or aggression without; we have a noble free-hold domain, in which no hereditary burdens need crush the efforts, blight the hopes, or quench the aspirations of future freemen. This inheritance is worth the price of insurance, even if that should be high. The millennium has clearly not yet arrived, so we must insure, be the cost what it may. We do not know that any power will ever attack us; we are not absolutely certain that we could, even with British aid, repel all attacks without fearful loss and damage to our cities and country, but it surely will not be found easy to smite down, and keep down millions of patriotic men, re-joined to repel invasion, in a country walled with gun-boats and ships of war, with an oil-rich and powerful nation at their back, fighting in self-defence, for national existence. On our own account we should at least make the attempt, on account of old England we should do so.—Those who tell us that she is ready to part with her colonial prestige may represent a certain portion of English sentiment; but there is no reason to think they represent the views of the British Government. English statesmen are too wise not to recognize the fact that British America, shielded in its youth, might, as its millions increase to tens and twenties, and upwards, be able to rally to the defence of the old flag, should the despotism of Europe ever combine to trample it in the dust. Here the navies, the armies of England might find men and material resources, but if no spirit of self-sacrifice can now be evolved, we would be of little value to England, and do little credit to ourselves."

The latter, a paper which has always been remarkable for the moderation of its tone in discussing public questions, and holding a high position among Colonial journals, says:—

"But why cavil about a few cents per head in a question where so many important interests are involved, and where the results are calculated to affect so vitally the future of these North American Colonies? The master should be regarded from a higher stand point than that of a few additional cents per head of indirect taxes. The signs of the times portend an early change in the position of these Provinces. What that change shall be is within the power of the people themselves to determine. Admitting, as all will, that we cannot much longer remain in our present isolated condition on the confines of a warlike neighbor, with different tariffs, different laws, and different currency, there are but two alternatives open for us, one or the other of which we must choose at no distant day—we must either drift into 'the maw of the great democracy,' or we must become a consolidated government, acknowledging allegiance to the Sovereign of the British realm, whose virtues we so much revere, and to a government beneath whoseegis the rights and liberties of the subject, whether peer or peasant, are jealously guarded. So circumstanced, there is little doubt as to which of the two alternatives the people of these Provinces, whose loyalty is proverbial, and whose respect for British laws and British customs is unsurpassed, will make choice, and there can be little question as to which of the two conditions would be most to our advantage. A few cents per head in addition to the amount we now have to pay, will be but a drop in the bucket compared with the weight of responsibility and debt we would have to bear if annexed to the Republic. Having then signified our preference for Union among ourselves rather than on annexation to the States, the next point to consider is the kind of Union we should adopt. This is an important point, but it is one which the careful student of past history and the thoughtful observer of present realities will find little difficulty in deciding. A Federal Union such as is in operation in the S.A.'s, where the powers of the Central and the State Governments clash, and where there is no Executive responsibility, would not work harmoniously; nor would a Legislative Union operate satisfactorily over a wide extent of territory and among people whose interests are so diversified as those of the British Provinces. What we require is a Union that will give to a Central Government the control in matters of general interest, and leave to the Local Legislatures the power of regulating matters of a purely local character; the former body to take cognizance

of all new matters for which special provision has not been made. This appears to be the kind of Union which is developed in the Confederation scheme, and it is the one most likely to meet the approval of the whole people. There may be some defects in the details; there may be some inequalities which will require rectifying; but shall we neglect the scheme on that account? As yet the opponents of the scheme have not pointed on better or more equitable; whether a further sitting of the question will enable them to do so we leave time to determine."

He (Mr. W.) was surprised at the statement of the hon member for Ferryland, Mr. Glen, that our expenditure for the last 8 or 10 years averaged £13,000. He (Mr. W.) believed this statement to be incorrect. The hon member had applied the present Canadian tariff to Newfoundland, and had told us that, under it, our revenue would be £145, whilst we should only receive from the Confederate Government £112,000. It was not fair to apply the Canadian tariff. We may just as well apply the tariff of New Brunswick or Nova Scotia, and tell us what our revenue under these would be. The Confederate tariff would be altogether a new one, adopted by the Confederate Parliament, having due regard to each part of the Union; and when we saw that Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia produced within one-fourth as much fish as we did, and the desire evinced by Canada to promote her fisheries at present, we might fairly augur well for the protection of our fishery interest. Would not the prosperity of Newfoundland be the prosperity of Canada also. Could it be supposed for one moment that a policy would be adopted injurious to the interest of any one province? Of what advantage would it be to the whole, to work an injury to any of its parts? Is not the prosperity of Burgeo and LaPoile, although far away from St. John's, the prosperity of Newfoundland? It has been said that Newfoundland is too remote from the seat of Government to profit in any equal degree with the other Provinces; and hon gentlemen who are opposed to Newfoundland entering the union, say it would be of advantage for the other Provinces to do so, because they are on the main, but we are isolated. He (Mr. W.) believed that we were not nearly so much isolated from Quebec as the district of Twillingate and Fogo is from St. John's. With Quebec we now have means of communication, and under confederation facilities would be afforded by a regular line of steamers in summer, and by steamers and railroads in winter. But as regards Twillingate and Fogo, during the winter months we could not even convey a letter thither; and although he (Mr. W.) had been for the last four sessions urging upon the government the establishment of a system of couriers for the conveyance of mails through the country to these distant districts, he had always been met by the cry of poverty and of inability to want of funds to carry out his views. A change of some whether it was confederation or something else, was devoutly to be wished for. It had been also stated that Canada wanted our revenue to enrich her impoverished exchequer. Nothing could be more ridiculous. Canada with her \$80,000,000 of debt, was better off than we are with our small debt. There they have large public improvements to shew for; while ours has been incurred in the relief of poverty, with but a single vestige of improvement remaining to his country. Canada, in return for her debt, has 2000 miles of railway in operation, which have cost £10,000,000; one bridge alone has cost £12,000,000; she has 4500 miles of telegraph wire, over which three quarters of a million of messages are annually sent; she has 250 miles of canals, which cost \$16,000,000, and through which 3,000,000 tons of freight passed last year; she has 15,000 miles of mail routes, 2900 post offices, the income of which exceeds the expenditure. This is what Canada has to show for her debt. What have we to show for ours? No one who has ever visited Canada but has been astonished at her immense resources, and the opportunity which is everywhere presented for the investment of money. Why is it that her debentures are at a discount? Simply because no one is desirous of investing money at 6 or 7 per cent. when there are opportunities in all directions for investing it at from 14 to 15, upon excellent security. Here the reverse was the case. We had no means of investing our money in any direction, and were glad of the opportunity of paying a premium of 4 to 5 per cent. for the privilege of investing it in 5 per cent. debentures. A party with a few hundred pounds here was afraid to lend on mortgage. Our landed property had become so frightfully depreciated, and there was no sign of improvement. Our public debt had increased, since 1855, from £111,000 to £213,000, and what public works had we to show? One vast pile of pauperism. We had spent our revenue in relieving the distressed, and now poverty had become an institution in the country; and this was all we had to show for our debt. Could the hon. the Solicitor General, or other gentleman who opposed the principle of confederation, point out a remedy for our difficulties? Each party had been in power during the last nine years, and he had been associated with both; yet he had failed to introduce any measure calculated to remedy the evils which exist. Our middle class and our tradespeople are fast disappearing. He says we want good fisheries and factories; but can we expect large factories to be established when there is only a limited market? The difficulties which manufacturers have to contend with, was aptly illustrated in the case of Mr. Vail's bakery at River-head. Sick was the prejudice in favour of Hamburg bread, together with the limited market in which he could operate, that it took him years before he could convince the people that he could give them as good an article, at a cheaper rate, than they could import. None but a man of Mr. Vail's indomitable perseverance would have overcome these obstacles. Now we have several bakeries established, and most of the bread used is made in the country. Had no benefit been derived therefrom? Had Mr. Vail at first a more extended sphere for action, his success would have been more rapid, or competition would have been produced, resulting to the public good. Complaints were frequently heard that capital realized in this country was withdrawn from it, and expended elsewhere; and that as soon as a man had made a little money he always left us. Well, every man had a right to spend his money where he pleased; but if we could afford inducement for men of means to continue among us, by offering them opportunities for political advancement at our representatives in the Confederate Parliament, it is not probable that, in course of time, it would have the effect of retaining capitalists in the country? They would prefer such positions to retirement and private life on the banks of the Clyde in England. No doubt this scheme would be opposed by those who were desirous of perpetuating our present Local Legislature, in all its little grandeur, for the sake of the small crumbs that might be picked up within the circle of its patronage; for under Confederation the business of expending the £79,000 we should get from the General Government, which was, after all, more than our present revenue, would be done by a much smaller body than our present very expensive Legislature; but it would be at less cost, and consequently there would be more money for public improvements. It should be remembered that this subject did not come before us without authority. It had been approved of by the first statesmen in the world, and strongly recom-

mended; among whom he might name Lord Durham who was most eminently qualified to give an opinion. He advised Union of the Provinces, and he (Mr. W.) might refer back as far as 1814, when the father of Her Majesty, the Duke of Kent, had, in a letter to Mr. Sewell, then Chief Justice of Lower Canada, highly approved of a similar proposition. Again, the Duke of Newcastle urged the accomplishment of this grand idea. We also saw the leading Colonial politicians in each province, burying their party differences, and anxious to promote the general good, by carrying the union into effect. We saw it among ourselves. Our leading politicians, men generally opposed in their political views, and representing various interests in the country, were agreed upon this subject, and he (Mr. W.) thought that the opinion of men of this stamp, both out of the country and in it, would have a little more weight than those who raised the cry that the country was going to be sold to Canada. The project for confederation received his firm support; but not upon the terms of the Report of the Delegates. He (Mr. W.) thought better terms might be obtained, and he was opposed to a postponement of the consideration of the Report until next year. He thought we should now be engaged in discussing the details and the conditions upon which we were prepared to enter the union, and having come to an understanding upon these points, we should adopt resolutions expressing our views, and containing our reasons; and the Government should be authorised to take such steps as may be expedient for protection our interests, in the shape of a delegation to the Imperial Parliament or otherwise, as occasion required. Canada had already adopted the report; New Brunswick would in all probability do the same, and although Nova Scotia seemed to be hesitating, there was every reason to believe that it would be carried in the Legislature of that Province by a large majority. What, then, would be our position, should they go to the Imperial Parliament for an act to perfect the union during the present session, after this house had been dissolved? Our interests would be neglected, and he (Mr. W.) thought we should retreat to the interests of our constituents, if we did not arm our Government with power to act upon any emergency that might occur. He was sorry that in the discussion of this matter allusion had been made to the depressed condition of the Colony. It made us feel ashamed at our poverty; but it was absolutely necessary that facts should be stated. He trusted that we should embrace the opportunity now afforded us, of rising from our degraded and isolated condition, that we should extend the hand of friendship to our brethren in the sister Provinces, and unite in forming the nucleus of what, not long hence would be a great and powerful nation.

(To be continued.)

EVERYTHING IN SEASON. That grey hairs are honorable in old age is a proverbial matter; but are they so in youth? MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER and ZYLOBALSAMUM, or Hair Dressing, are suited to both young and old, they restore grey hair to its youthful color, giving the roots the natural nourishment. They renew, preserve and increase the growth. Every Druggist sells them. J. J. DAVIS, Sol. Agent for Newfoundland, to whom all orders must be addressed.

The Newfoundland.

ST. JOHN'S:
THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1865.

We have had no further arrivals from the Seal Fishery at this port than those we have already announced, and, naturally enough, the prospects of the voyage form the chief subject of public anxiety. It was a great relief to have heard of the arrival of Carbonar on last Monday, of the *Superior*, which, though in a leaky state, brought in 2800 seals, and with them favourable accounts of several St. John's and Conception Bay vessels which were seen doing well with seals. Since then we also learn of the arrival of the *Rosina* at Harbor Grace, to Messrs. Ridley & Sons, with 2,000 seals. Our weather continues somewhat more moderate than is desirable for the interests of the sealers, and a lively breeze is much wished for on their account.

THE last arrival from England brought the intelligence that the Hon. HUGO W. HOYLES, Attorney General, had been gazetted as Chief Justice of this colony, in the place of Sir FRANCIS BRADY, who has resigned the position from ill-health. This announcement is received by the community with great and sincere satisfaction. The appointment of our first Native Judge would of itself be a subject of gratulation, as evidencing the progressive results of the working of our representative institutions; but Mr. HOYLES' case involves other considerations which we are no less glad to see justly recognised. He belongs to one of the oldest and most respectable families in the island: he has for many years been a leading member of the Bar and has worn its highest honours with a reputation for distinguished ability and integrity. He has, it is true, been foremost in the political arena; but while broadly differing from most of his views on public affairs, we nevertheless concur in that estimate of his mind and character which holds him fully capable of rising, in his new sphere of duty, superior to party bias or predilections, and adjusting himself without effort to the rigid obligations of even-handed justice imposed upon him by his elevation to the judicial seat. That such should be the feeling of the public in his regard, all circumstances considered, is itself high praise, but his deserves rest on indisputable ground.

In acknowledging the following communication, we can assure the members of the Agricultural Society that we are exceedingly gratified by the high though unmerited compliment they have bestowed upon our humble efforts in the discharge of a public duty; and we must in justice add that it was the alarming statistics brought to light through the seal of the Society which most forcibly prompted our endeavour on behalf of the object they have had in view:—

St. John's, Nfld., 12th April, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—We have much pleasure in communicating to you the following Resolution unanimously passed at the Quarterly Meeting of the Newfoundland Agricultural Society held this day:—

Moved by the Hon. Mr. John Eales, and Resolved,—"That the Agricultural Society of Edward D. Shea, to the Legislature, and for the Protection of Society."

Shea's exertions in the much as being a private official obligation de trouble of taking cha "That a copy of this R. Shea, and that it be John's newspapers."

To EDWARD D. SHEA,

[TO THE EDITOR OF MR. EDITOR.—It is a merit is due." I have any remarks in the delivered both at the Institute, but marked a instructive lecture del 4th inst.

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He went far back in to describe the infancy of branch of science; she and Cartilage made in much we are indebted of Colonization. He mentioned the Nautical Venice and Genoa in the Crusades. Next he al Maritime Power spoke eloquently of the spheres are indeed for the dis

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SIR.—Perhaps the b we heard in St. John literature amongst us, Dr. Howley before a

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