

able-bodied men, to endure the privations and labors of a fisherman's life on the banks. We are largely engaged in mining, lumbering, and trade...

As to what Mr. Young, Mr. Johnson, or Mr. Howe may have said in this regard, I do not know. It is the duty of the Legislature to look to the present circumstances of the country, and provide for the best interests. We should not wander away from the subject immediately before us...

Things like these make a great many people intensely loyal. Take away their salaries and their pocket-bags, and their honours, and they become a good deal like the poor people of this country...

It is not necessary that I should say any word derogatory to that gentleman, and I am sure I have no desire to do so. I shall compare his past with his present course, and I shall accord to Mr. Howe his due influence and position in this country...

The Legislative authority of Parliament extends over the United Kingdom and all its Colonies and foreign possessions, and there are no limits to the power of making laws for the whole empire...

Mr. McDONALD then said.—The present question is one of the most important subjects that can engage the attention of a free people...

Since this debate arose nothing has been evolved that has not already appeared in the press of the opponents of the scheme. The advocates of Union to-night have not to meet a congregation that has not been previously considered and refuted...

There is one argument which has been used by the opponents of the scheme which requires consideration. I admit that, if it be true, it is a fundamental argument, for it lies at the very basis of the question we are discussing...

I must say that I was astonished not only to hear a lawyer but other members of this Legislature who from their position, ought to be somewhat versed in constitutional knowledge...

The Legislative authority of Parliament extends over the United Kingdom and all its Colonies and foreign possessions, and there are no limits to the power of making laws for the whole empire...

In addition to this I shall quote the opinion of one of the highest authorities on all such matters—from a book which is not only of the highest authority, but is familiar to every man of ordinary reading and information...

wealth, while we secure their enjoyment of all their just rights and privileges. And now, sir, we can legitimately examine the expediency of the proposed change, and enquire whether the Union of these Colonies be a proper and judicious measure on the part of the people of this country...

I refer to the position occupied in reference to this question by its present opponents in former times. It is quite true men may legitimately change their opinion on public questions, but in doing so they invite inquiry as to the motives by which they are actuated and the reasons for the change...

It is not necessary that I should say any word derogatory to that gentleman, and I am sure I have no desire to do so. I shall compare his past with his present course, and I shall accord to Mr. Howe his due influence and position in this country...

I do not know, sir, what you would say if you were asked to administer justice. Whether to a Province? No! but to an American Empire. You would place Mr. Chandler on the bench of the United Provinces; you would hold out to the young men of the organization of the people a vision which they would follow...

On the 1st of August I am proud to say of the unanimity and evident attachment to the cause of our fathers which characterized this meeting. In the general view of the government and people of England, there is no more to be expected than that our own people should rise into a nation nothing can be more honorable than our connection with the present state.

Hopefully forward to the period when these Provinces, with the population, the resources, the intelligence, the courage, the energy, the national character. Until that day comes we are safe beneath the shield of England, and when it comes we shall stand between the two great nations whose blood we share...

Shortly afterwards Mr. Howe visited New Brunswick, and in a speech delivered there, thus reported by the hon. member for Halifax in the book I have referred to...

"If the sphere were wide enough here, what would you do with this mere transit traffic, and if there were no other means of conveying our goods to the Provinces, for the purpose of preparing the public mind in England to promote their elevation to a higher status in the scale of nations?..."

"Among all ranks and classes the railroad seemed to be regarded as indispensable agencies by which North Americans would be drawn into a common bond of interest, with higher hopes, and ultimately elevated by some form of political association, to that position, which, when these great works have prepared the way of union, one half of this continent may fairly claim in the estimation of the world."

"If, then, the British and Colonial statesmen do not incorporate this people into the British Empire, or make a nation of them, they will, long before numbers have swelled so much, make a nation of themselves."

What did Mr. Howe mean by all that? Higher status in the scale of nations, Union? Higher position when North America shall rise into a nation, &c? Did he mean that Little Nova Scotia was speaking then of British America—asking them to build the road and obtain that standing in the world which the advocates of union are now endeavoring to bring about?

But, sir, during the appearance of the scope of this country, which is high as it may seem, which it discloses for our children, and bounded on the fields of honorable labor which it presents, another grander in proportions, opens beyond; one which the statesman of a poet could not exaggerate, but which the statesman of a poet could not exaggerate, but which the statesman of a poet could not exaggerate...

On another occasion, in a great speech which the same gentleman delivered in this House on the Organization of the Empire he says:—"Sir, the first question which we men of the North must put to ourselves, is, have we a territory broad enough which to make a nation?..."

These were the sentiments that Mr. Howe impressed upon the people of this country. What then did they lead to? When the Provisional Secretary moved the resolution, two years ago, for the Union of the Maritime Colonies...

"Taking our population at two millions and a half, (it is now nearer four millions,) every fifth man should be able to draw a trigger, giving 600,000 men capable of bearing arms. Such a force would be more than an invading army, but in defence of the Province, invincible by any force that could be sent from abroad."

"How often have we heard that our republican neighbors were going to overrun the Provinces. They have attempted once or twice, but have always been beaten out, and I do not hesitate to say that British America, ever whom the old flag flies, are able to defend every inch of their territory, even though Her Majesty's troops were withdrawn."

"It is hardly worth while detaining the house on this branch of the subject, for it has been so very amply discussed; but let me say that this union will give us commercial greatness, political status, social distinction, and military power; I will not say we are going all at once to become a great Empire, to be able to compete with the great nation close to us—but let us unite these colonies, consolidate their strength and resources, and we start fair for all the greatness which the Anglo-Saxon race is sure to attain when it has the means and the opportunity."

"The hon. member for Yarmouth says that we cannot have extensive commercial relations with Canada, and that union will give us no impulse to our commercial enterprise, and he scouted the idea that we can sustain manufacturing establishments. Why should we not have manufactures? He says we have not the population. True, I reply, whilst we remain isolated as at present—whilst we have only a population of 300,000 people, he is quite right to say we cannot rise above our present condition. No one knows better than he that a large manufactory in Halifax or Yarmouth of any particular article could supply the Province. We can afford no inducements to men of large capital to expend their money in developing our resources. Give us, however, the population of four millions that union will give, strike down the hostile tariffs that now stand like a Chinese wall between the Provinces, and you have the market for manufactures which is now wanting to stimulate enterprise."

"Why should not the cotton of New Orleans come to be converted into cloth—the iron of Pennsylvania come to be converted into cutlery in the manufactories of Boston. Why can Massachusetts supply manufactures to the whole Union? Because the hostile tariffs meet her productions at every state boundary. Why should not Halifax be the Boston of British North America? Why should not the cotton of New Orleans be manufactured in this city, and supplied to every town in the Confederacy? Why should not tobacco be made, and sugar refined here as well as in Boston? No reason in the world is there why it should not be so, except that we have no market, no population, fenced in as we are by the hostile tariffs of every surrounding country. Supporting each of the United States had remained isolated and separate communities, that each state had preserved its own revenue and trade laws, in what position would they be in now? Weak, insignificant communities, instead of components of one of the strongest and proudest nations of the world. I ask then, is it not our duty to adopt this measure? If our trade shall be enlarged and wealth will be increased, then it is an answer to all the story we have heard about taxation. The people have been told time and again until they began to believe it is so—that they are going to be taxed to pay the debt of Canada. There is no foundation for such a belief, but suppose I assume for the sake of argument that the statement is partially true, and that instead of paying 10 we shall pay 15 or 17 per cent, but if our commerce prosper as largely as I have predicted, then I ask the hon. member for Yarmouth whether the mere trifle of increased duty should stand in the way, when compared with the progress that this country will make in all the elements of productive industry. It is not many years since the construction of railways was commenced in this country, and I remember how many persons said they were to be outworn. Mr. Howe was going to swamp us. Our taxation was to be doubled. And a great many persons thought that if our duties were largely raised we would be ruined beyond redemption. I dare say the hon. member for Yarmouth did a great deal to create that idea throughout the country, for he was then as now opposed to every progressive measure. We built the Railways and the crockers have turned out false property. Our duties have been doubled, and I will undertake to say that there is not a man in the House who will say that we are not now better able to pay our increased duties than we were to pay the lesser duty ten years ago. It is an illustration of what may be the result of the Union with the British North American Colonies. It gives us a vast extension of territory, a vast population, a vast wealth of a country, and while we are the fear of taxation raising us or crushing us, we are the object of every man's envy. I do not intend to overdo myself in the discussion of other branches of the subject. With Union, our social and political position will be raised, and we shall have a great many more people to support our government."

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