

their inclinations are, and admitting their great power, I think I have shown their intentions. History will repeat itself—our destiny is clear—Confederation or Annexation? I forewarn your Honors what the result will be if we do not now take steps to direct and guide the ship of State. The times are ominous of danger. There are traitors in our midst, and I am much mistaken if the Councils of our country have not been tainted by some of them. I find in a Halifax paper which I now hold in my hands the statement of a leading anti, formerly a member of the government, in which he declares that he would rather see the stars and stripes float over Citadel Hill than see Confederation of British America. I will not repeat what I have heard of some of our own prominent men and I hope for their sake that the treasonable utterances ascribed to them are untrue, and I would fain hope that they would not prove traitors even if they should persist in their Anti policy. I would now refer to a document picked up in St. John, supposed to be published by a Republican Committee in St. John, curiously composed of a mixture of Confederacy and Rebellion, but I have faith in this, that if the Fenian invaders dare insult our soil, I believe we will give a good account of them. Time will not permit me to go into the details of the question of Confederation; indeed it is unnecessary in this Chamber after the very able speeches of Messrs. Botsford and Chandler—speeches which when delivered were listened to by the five anti members of this House with dismay, and to this hour have remained unanswered. The enlightened views of the former gentleman, and the able statistical calculations of the latter, coming as they do from gentlemen of standing, influence and experience, will have their effect. For myself I feel the importance of the occasion. I have long felt the necessity of a change of our position.—Isolation was dangerous to our liberty and destructive to our progress. Our people are industrious—our resources abundant—but Union is necessary to our success. Association by rational union with three or four millions of people, attached to the institutions of our parent state, would give a strength and importance to us which we do not possess.—We would have extended markets for our fish, and extensive employment for our ships and other manufactures, and by increased trade, an increased home market for the farm-

er. Situated as we are as the great outpost sentinels towards Europe on the stormy Atlantic, we in these Maritime Provinces would become from our favorable position the outlet and shipping post for the great trade of the far west. Railroads ere long would connect our principal cities and towns with the world outside of us, and in course of time we might look forward to their extension across the continent. Those outlying portions of the Empire stretching from the great lakes across the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific would conduce to our greatness. Their wealth and their exports must increase our commerce, and our ships must find employment in the prosecution of their trade.

The water and bed of the great lakes and the mighty St. Lawrence are capable of sustaining twenty millions of people alone.—Her immense granaries which help to feed Europe with her surplus exports—her timber, oils and minerals are each year increasing the value of her exports, and her great and growing population will afford us valuable markets for our products while we may become valuable customers for them. The signs of the times are significant. Canada has declared for Union; Newfoundland has followed in her wake and intimated her willingness to pursue the same course. We have here by the vote of this Council proclaimed in favor, and in Nova Scotia its friends are confident of success, and the country, to whom we owe so much, desires it. I believe a large majority of our people desire it, while amongst those who oppose it we will find all of our population who are aliens to British interests or hostile to British power. The man who is an alien by birth is generally to be found in their ranks, and many of those whose commercial pursuits lead them into business connection with the States, avow themselves hostile; and if reports are true, at the Fenian demonstration on our borders, within a few days past, the leaders of those threatened invaders openly declared that he wished to aid the Antis and defeat Confederation, and thus strike a blow against British power on this continent.—We are now as colonists comparatively a free people, but history indicates that a small Province cannot long remain independent beside a powerful and rapacious neighbor. In union there is strength, security and continued freedom. Out of it there is before us annexation and extinction of national exist-