

my college life. They are things which should be remembered by all, and some day I may be able to picture as well as possible the scenes, but in the meantime they will pass into oblivion.

I attended the first political meeting of my life at the age of ten years, at which Young, Howe, Archibald and McCully spoke at Aylesford. It was a great event to me. I had been dreaming even before this for years about politics and politicians, and the names of these men had been as familiar to me as could be, and I was placed upon the platform, as a small boy, in order that I might see and hear well. William Young was at this time the leader of the party, Howe having devoted himself to the work of building the Provincial railway in 1854, having retired from leadership of the Government, Young taking his place; and when the Government was defeated in 1857 and the whole Liberal party went out, Howe went with the rest, but Young remained the leader. Young appeared to best advantage at this meeting. Howe was left until the last and the meeting was pretty well exhausted by this time. Benjamin Weir, Adam G. Archibald and Jonathan McCully and William Young had spoken by this time and Howe had been addressing himself to the ladies and getting them all in proper humour, but he did not appear to full advantage at this meeting. It was a meeting of the Liberal leaders after the election and was intended to bring them into prominence. They had only won the election by a small majority, four or five, but they were pretty certain to defeat the Government. I enjoyed this experience above all else in my life. The meeting was held at Aylesford in the county of Kings, which is next to the county of Annapolis, and in order to get there in time, we had to start before daylight in the morning, but arrived on the spot in sufficient time to see the carriage drive up with four horses,

containing the various speakers, who were received with great huzzahs on all sides. The next opportunity I had was when Tupper, as Premier and Provincial Secretary, came to Bridgetown and held a meeting on Confederation. It was a crowded meeting, and I have no doubt that a great majority of the meeting was opposed to Confederation. Tupper was at his best. He was not met on that occasion by a real opponent. The Hon. Mr. Musgrave, who was really a most genial and happy type of speaker, made some remarks and they were hostile to Confederation, but they were not of a political character, and therefore had not the weight that would attach to the matter otherwise. Dr. Robertson was present and made a few observations, which, while he was a highly respected clergyman, had no effect upon the meeting, but at the end of it young Mr. Gidney, son of the famous Angus M. Gidney, editor of *The Free Press*, rose and moved a resolution offering great hostility to the present scheme. This was seconded and put to the meeting. My father was chairman of the meeting at the time. As the place was packed with people, it was impossible to form a division, and therefore my father proposed that those who were in favor of the resolution should go out, whereupon the meeting arose, as far as I could judge, two-thirds, and rushed towards the door. But Tupper at once took advantage of the occasion to rise and make all sorts of exclamations—"Would you tie the hands of your representatives?" and all such remarks as that, which the parties going out stopped to hear, which prevented any real division from taking place, and Tupper afterwards stated that he had scarcely been able to miss from this great meeting in Annapolis the people who had gone and supported the resolution.

The next meeting I attended was a memorable one. It was held in the