

ed with the inhabitants and constitution of neighbouring States than with our kindred subjects in the Maritime Provinces. Until the Intercolonial Railway is constructed, we must pass through a foreign and possibly hostile country, to reach a seaport during a portion of the year. Therefore the task before us is great, and it will require all the energy and skill that Canada can produce to overcome their difficulties and bring this great project to a successful issue. Our whole position is changed, having emerged from dependent Provinces into the semi-independent position of a new Dominion. In future we will have to take a wider view of the position we hold in relation to the British Empire, than we have done. A great majority of leading men will stand by us provided we do our duty by them. This country presents a very vulnerable point of attack, and the British Government have been put to considerable expense in providing our own defence. We therefore have double to do for we have to discharge our duties as citizens of Canada, and as citizens of the British Empire. It is utterly impossible for us to stand alone without the protection of the Mother country, and on the other hand the British Empire could not maintain the sovereignty of the seas if this country was severed from the British Crown and entered into an alliance with the United States. Privateers could then run from the harbour of Halifax to the British Isles in a week, and destroy their commerce. The commerce is a matter of necessity, and the people of England, for without it, one-half of the present people could not be supported, neither could they retain one-tenth part of their wealth and influence in the Councils of the world. Therefore, while it is our duty as subjects of the British Empire to do all we can to maintain our connection with this Empire, we do not come before Great Britain as supplicants, but as fully adequate to render a recompense for all we ask of them. He then referred to the Territory of the Hudson's Bay Co. and said it would afford a great deal of satisfaction to the people of Ontario, that the territory was thrown open to immigration. The next question the Government would have to take up, was Reciprocity with the United States. It was fortunate that the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty took place at the time it did, for the blow aimed at us by the people of the United States recoiled upon their own heads; but now that the American war was over, they should take advantage of the present opportunity to renew that Treaty, because it might be more difficult to do so at some future time. There is

an allusion made in the address to protection for native industry. In a young country like ours, maintenance of a certain amount of duty, without violating any principles of free trade, is best. Where any taxes have been imposed to encourage native manufactures, the abrogation of these taxes should not be made suddenly, but they should be made after a term of years, or reduced gradually. He referred to the Commercial Bank and said it was impossible to see how the Currency Act of last session could affect the Commercial Bank or the Bank of Upper Canada in the way its provisions were to go into operations. In regard to the act of Union, he could say to his friends from Nova Scotia that it was utterly impossible to abrogate it. Therefore, they should devote their talents to amend any of its provisions which they considered unjust. There should be no disunion at this time, when they required a strong and powerful government to carry out great ends.

**Mr. Morris** spoke of the superior advantage we could now have in negotiating a Reciprocity Treaty with the United States, compared with the advantages we possessed when separate provinces; and said we would inevitably obtain better terms than we otherwise could have done. Hereafter, the British Government instead of having to deal with separate Provinces, would deal with one central power. They could now have one tariff framed to meet the wants of every section of the Dominion. He could not enumerate the advantages to be derived from the union better than to quote from a speech delivered by his honourable friend from Hants, Mr. Howe, in 1849. Mr. Morris then read portions of that speech which detailed the advantages to be derived from union, and said he was sorry to hear his honourable friend the other night speak of there being a packed majority in this House. He would ask who packed the majority? They came here as free representatives of a free people anxiously desiring to do their best for the interest of the whole union. There was plenty of work for them to do—they must consolidate and bind the Provinces of the Dominion into one harmonious whole and make this union an institution that will secure for their children's children the blessing of a free government.

The first paragraph of the Address was then adopted, and second read, when—

**Mr. Albert Smith**, regretted that Government had not prepared a speech that would not have been distasteful or insulting to those who entertained views different from