

thirteen States, when the difficulty could have been arranged in a month, the horrors of the revolutionary war prevented, and all our race living at peace and harmony at present without the bickering and animosity which prevail in their midst. Talk of the fall of Quebec being a source of sorrow to the inhabitants of this Province. It would be more. If the St. Lawrence were in the hands of our enemies, we should be compelled to beg permission to tear down the British flag. What he wished for Nova Scotia was, that she may be the frontage of a mighty Colony; upon which it may be truly said the sun never set. No man can look upon Halifax and its environs, its harbour, its citadel, and say it was made for this Province alone.

The United States have drifted into a civil war; and we may drift into a tight place, from which it may be difficult to extricate ourselves. The States may assail us; but if we had a railway by which troops could be sent from Quebec or other military stations to the threatened point, we would be saved.

I trust, sir, that now that we have the moral strength arising from the Union of these Provinces, and the assurance of support in any emergency from the Imperial Government it will not be found necessary to burden our people with any oppressive taxation for defence; but my honourable friend should remember that when he was opposing this Union of the Colonies, he presented a counter scheme for the defence of this country under which all British America would be compelled to pay into the Imperial Treasury for the support of army and navy of England. This enormous taxation far exceeding anything that we can be called upon here to contribute, was to be disbursed under my honourable friend's scheme, by a Parliament in which Nova Scotia was to have two representatives, and Canada four or five. My honourable friend, who has inspired such dread in the back settlements of Nova Scotia, that the young men would be drafted to protect the helpless people of Ontario and Quebec, proposed to the British Government that in addition to this heavy taxation we should contribute our quota of the army required in any war in which Great Britain might be engaged. By duly balancing the route of the Intercolonial, my honourable friend seems to think the Government may retain power for the next ten years. If this be the case as that question mainly affects the Maritime Provinces, we must after all possess some influence in this Parliament. In complaining of the mode in which the Union measure passed the House of Commons, it was stated that the Commons was influenced by an untruthful statement made by an honourable member of that body. As this refers to Mr. Watkin's remark that Confederation was made an issue at the polls at the last election, I am glad to have the opportuni-

ty to make an explanation. When Mr. Bright asserted that this question of Union had not been before the people in Nova Scotia, Mr. Watkin left his seat, and came over to the part of the House where I was sitting near the Hon. Mr. Galt, who remembers well the circumstances. Mr. Watkin said: "Dr. Tupper, I wish to speak to you," and I went with him some distance to the side of the room. He then said: "What is your answer to Mr. Bright's statement, that this question has never been before the people?" I said: "The answer is this: In 1861 Mr. Howe, when leader of the Government, moved a resolution in favour of the Union of the Provinces, which passed the Assembly unanimously. That previously to the last general election I had publicly advocated such a Union as has now been agreed upon, and that I was brought into power, and this measure had been carried by a large majority of the present Parliament." Mr. Watkin knowing that this question was now one of controversy supposed that it had been made an issue at the polls as would undoubtedly have been the case, only that we were all unanimous upon the question at that time. I turned to Mr. Galt during Mr. Watkin's speech, and remarked how difficult it was to make parties understand, when they were not familiar with the history of a question. Had I wished to mislead Mr. Watkin, I would not have dared to do so, as I had placed in his hands a published history of the whole question in Nova Scotia, which showed that it had never been made an issue at the polls. This House will I am sure exonerate Mr. Watkin from any intentional misrepresentation. My honourable friend takes particular exception to that portion of the speech, which indicates a desire for the Western extension. This is the more remarkable in connection with the great importance which he attaches, and justly to immigration as the great means of rendering the country strong and prosperous. With 11 millions of acres of public soil in the Red River and Saskatchewan Country, to invite the immigrant and increase our population, this question of Western extension becomes one of the greatest importance, but I will give you the forcible and eloquent observations of my honourable friend upon this subject as much more conclusive and instructing than anything I can afford:

The Hudson Bay territory includes two hundred and fifty thousand miles. Throwing aside the more bleak and inhospitable regions, we have a magnificent country between Canada and the Pacific, out of which five or six noble Provinces may be formed, larger than any we have, and presenting to the hand of industry, and to the eye of speculation,