

The Charlottetown Convention, September 1864.—At this time Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island were talking of a union among themselves. To discuss this matter, delegates from these Provinces met at Charlottetown. Uninvited, but made welcome, there came also to the meeting delegates from the Province of Canada. The subject of a confederation of all the Provinces quite overshadowed the smaller union of the Maritime Provinces.

The Quebec Convention.—A few weeks later the delegates, including representatives from Newfoundland, met in the city of Quebec, and drew up a scheme of union.

The Union Scheme in the different Provinces.—The Legislature of Canada, which in the following February met in Quebec for the last time, adopted this scheme. In the Maritime Provinces the matter did not go so smoothly. Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island would have nothing to do with confederation. In New Brunswick a general election took place before this scheme of union was submitted to the Legislature. Not a single member of the Quebec delegation was returned. A new Ministry opposed to the scheme came into power. Dr. Charles Tupper (Sir Charles Tupper), the Premier of Nova Scotia, stated that on account of the opposition in New Brunswick, the question would not be brought before the House that session.

New Brunswick.—But suddenly a great change came over New Brunswick. In opposition to the views of his advisers, Governor Gordon recommended union to the Assembly. His Ministry resigned. The Governor then called a Union Ministry, with the Hon. Samuel Tilley as Premier. The new Ministry, on appealing to the people through a general election, was sustained.

A New Basis.—The Legislature of Nova Scotia being still in session, Dr. Tupper brought forward the Union Bill. Opposition to the measure was very strong. Some disliked the terms of the Quebec scheme; others urged that in a matter of so great concern the voice of the people should be heard through a general election. Finally a Bill, providing for terms of union to be drawn up in London, was carried by a large