

in it; but I take for granted that, if they had applied, they would not have been refused the lease.

The hon. member said also that we could have had Reciprocity without anybody being a bit the wiser, by means of legislation. If he understood the matter he would know that that is just what we have always refused on any terms. Legislative reciprocity means that the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States shall pass a bill for admitting certain articles duty free this year, and that the next year it may be repealed. No colony would accept such an arrangement for an hour, because the effect would be to build up interests and trades, and after we had got them in operation, three lines in an Act of Congress would destroy them utterly. The very fault that was found with the Canadian ministers was that they hinted a willingness to accept legislative reciprocity. We had once an Act of the Legislature of the United States by which ground plaster was admitted duty free; all around the Bay of Fundy, as if by magic, mills were erected to grind the plaster, but in a year or two after that industry was fairly under way the Senate revoked the Act, the mills went to ruin, and are lying there yet, monuments of the folly and danger of legislative reciprocity. Does not the hon. member know, furthermore, that we could not pass an act to admit free the goods of any one country alone? The policy of the British Government is that such arrangements are to be made only by act of the Imperial Parliament or by treaty. When he talks about the United States having reciprocity with one Province, he should know that the thing is impossible, and yet he talks as if Canada were the *bête noir*, and as if we could get a treaty without any difficulty if we were once rid of her. But if he will refer to his leader, the Attorney General, he will be told that, in his opinion, reciprocity is all a delusion—that we have no need for it at all, and would be far better without it—that we want protection, and should keep ourselves to ourselves.

The hon. member for Pictou was foremost among those who talked about treachery, and he went so far as to compare the men who voted for Confederation with Monteth and Lopez, the most contemptible characters that history has produced. I wonder that he did not compare us with Judas Iscariot, for he could only go that one step farther than he went. I was glad to hear him say that he had no personal acquaintance with the Senators, because, if he had, he could not have used such language as that they were "a disgrace to the country." Is John H. Anderson, T. D. Archibald, John Locke or Benjamin Wier a disgrace to the country? And who is this that has the coolness to come here and speak in that way of our public men? When it is in his power to boast of having done for his country one hundredth part of the good which some of these men have done for it, we might be content to listen to him. Some of those gentlemen have built up large fortunes by their industry and enterprise, and have done more for Nova Scotia than he and his friends will do in the next hundred years. I will say no more upon this point,

but leave it, trusting that the hon. member will reflect upon his language, and feel that it should be withdrawn. He gave us poetic quotations in any quantity in his speech, and quoted Shakespeare in reference to me. I recollect hearing Mr. Howe say that one could make Shakespeare and the Bible prove anything, but what quotation was selected for me? It was in relation to the man who never smiled. I did not think that such a description was applicable to me—that I was a cynic, who never enjoyed anything like a joke, but Shakespeare speaks somewhere of a man who does smile, and he says

"That one may smile and smile and be a villain."

I feel that perhaps the best answer I can give to the hon. member is to repeat some of the language which he used, and leave it in the ears of the House and of the country. He said he would be afraid to meet me in a dark lane, or to have me behind him in such a place. When a member of this House would come up to another placed in my position, and use such language, I feel that he needs but little reply. I am an assassin, am I? He is much mistaken in my character. Whatever I have to say to a man I say it to his face—not in a dark lane or behind his back, but I can tell him that a man who would aim at another such a stab as he aimed at me, would do anything in a dark lane. The use of this language accounted for the nervousness of the hon. member yesterday, when it was agreed between the Atty. General and myself that our speeches should close the debate. He sprang to his feet and was most anxious to know whether he could not get an opportunity to reply. I am willing to hear him if the rules of the House will permit it. If we are to sit for a week or a month longer, by all means let us have the reply and the rejoinder which will follow. He said also that such language as I had used was only to be heard in the Police office, the fish market, and the back slums of the city. I ask if any member of the House is warranted in making such remarks as these? When he talks about the back slums I feel that others may be as familiar with these localities as I. He then went on to talk of my name and family. Of that name I have good reason to be proud, but when the hon. member undertakes to tell me that a brother, who has been dead for twenty-five years, would be ashamed of me if he were here, I ask him if he should not feel somewhat ashamed? The honor of my family is in my keeping, not in his,—if it were in his I fear it would be sadly tarnished. When next he talks to me about my family he had better beware of the retaliation which will be the result. I do not rely for my defence on the fame of my ancestors, but on my own right arm and on my own ability, and I repeat that when next the hon. member feels inclined to indulge in those attacks he must not forget that I will have an opportunity for reply. I regret exceedingly that he has driven me into a line which I would prefer not to have taken in closing this debate,—as I said before, I held out the olive branch in closing my last speech, and almost pleaded that we should have no more exhibitions