The Provincial We[sleyan].

Published under the direction of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Eastern British America.

Volume XVII, No. 2. HALIFAX, N. S., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1865. Whole No. 808

New Advertisements.

[WIN]TER ARRANGEMENT.

American Express.

[illegible] of Nova Scotia, Prince [illegible] Brunswick, Newfound- [illegible] the above [illegible]

Wesleyan Book Room.

—Just received—

Christian Miscellany for 1864; Early Days for 1864; Sunday at Home do. do.; Leisure Hour do. do.; Wesley's Sermons; Fletcher's Checks; Smith's Methodism; Stephen's Methodism; Martyrology, in 3 vols; Kirk's Mother of the Wesley's; Brigg's Modern Missions; Life of Entwisle; Dr. Clarke's Sermons; Benson's Sermons; Locke's Theology; Edmondson's Sermons; Bunting's Sermons; The Land and the Book, by Dr. Thomson. &c. &c. &c.

THE [illegible] ance Comp'y.

Religious Miscellany.

The Naked Bough.

BY HARRISON GRAMBO.

Behold you naked bough,
With branches seared and bare—
The flying squirrel now
Can find no refuge there.
It seems but yester-morn
I pushed its leaves away,
But now, behold, 'tis shorn
Of all its fine array,
Was it the Northern blast,
With cold and chilling breeze,
This icy mantle cast
Upon the forest trees?
Or did the winter frost,
Assail it, where it stood,
And mark each leaf as lost
Within the silent wood?
For, where was verdure green,
There's not a leaflet now,
Nor living vestige seen—
Naught but the naked bough.

How changed from when in Spring
The creeper wound its length—
Itself a tender thing—
To gain its greater strength.
But see! 'tis fading fast,
Aye, it is shrinking now
Before the Winter blast,
'Long with the mother bough!
And man is like that bough,
With Summer, Spring and Fall—
Lives all their courses through
Till winter covers them all.
His Spring is bright and green,
His summer passing fair,
His autumn all serene,
When shadowed not with care.
And when the axe has cleft
The branches and the tree,
The root, the soul is left
For all eternity;
Then, in a brighter clime,
And warmer one than now,
'Twill rear itself in time,
By far a nobler bough!

In Beulah there are trees
As fair as Eden's bloom,
Without a frost to freeze
Or turn their hues to gloom;
Without a Winter's night
To crystallize the dew,
And grow in peerless light,
In robes of every hue:
Where seeds need not be sown,
For Yeoman reap nor plow,
Nor is there ever known
To be a naked bough!
Then, Christians, let us see;
If we are like that bough,
For, if perchance, we be,
Perhaps 'twill teach us how
To live in purity.

For we are branches all
Of one Eternal Vine;
Thence is our Spring and Fall
Till every leaf's unfurled,
And what were hidden things,
Are blossomed on the world.
As by the fruits that grow,
All men can tell the *tree*,
So passers by will know
What sort of *branch* are we.
Then let us brethren see
What's our condition now,
And this inquiry be—
AM I A NAKED BOUGH?

—*Episcopal Recorder.*

A Dream that is not All a Dream.

A merchant, at the close of a day during which, in addition to uncommon business perplexity, his patience had been sorely taxed by repeated and importunate applications for donations to various charities, found himself in his favorite retreat—his library. Wrapped in a sumptuous gown, his feet clad in easy and richly-wrought slippers, he had flung his wearied frame into his study chair, and exhausted by the cares of the day, he fell asleep. In his sleep he dreamed. In his dream he saw a stranger standing before him, who, drawing a paper from his bosom thus addressed him:

"My friend, I come to beg of you, in view of the special necessities of our Master's cause at this time, an increase, for this year, of one-third upon your ordinary subscription to the cause of Foreign Missions."

"Sir," he replied, "this year will be to me one of uncommon expense. My new house is just finished and furnished, and such are the demands upon my purse, that I shall hardly be able to give as much for that cause as I did last year."

The stranger then drew forth a second paper from his bosom, and made the same request with reference to the Domestic Mission work.

The merchant annoyed at this, repeated his reply with additional emphasis and in briefer terms.

No way disconcerted by the rebuff, the stranger, laying the two papers upon the table, and drawing another from his bosom, made a like request in behalf of the Bible cause.

To this the half-angry merchant gave a short and not over-kind response.

This paper the stranger laid upon the table, and drew still another from bosom, and asked the same favor for the Colporteur work.

This request being answered with a frown, the stranger laid it upon the table, drew forth yet another, and asked for a like increase to his ordinary subscription for that. And so he continued his appeals, until quite a pile of subscription papers lay upon the merchant's table, while the irritated, and, in his own view, insulted man, looked on in sullen silence.

At last, the stranger, more in sorrow than in anger, yet in a tone that thrilled the listener to his very heart, said:

Look at me, and listen! *Five years ago* you [were] on the very verge of bankruptcy. Your [ruin] seemed just spreading its wings to leave [you p]enniless, and your family without means to buy even bread to eat. And in that dark hour [illegible] how you prayed—prayed for relief from the [threa]tened ruin! Who was it that pitied your [distress], heard your prayer, and rolled the dismal [cloud] away? [illegible] years ago, you lay upon what you deemed and your weeping friends considered, a bed of death. The physician had given up all hope. And when you thought of that woman soon to become a widow, and those children soon to become orphans, and of their probable struggles with privation and want, you turned your face to the wall and wept. Oh! how bitter were those tears! And you cried out for reprieve—reprieve until you might make some provision for their wants. Who was it heard that piteous cry and gave you what you asked?

"*Fifteen* years ago you were in the gall of bitterness and in the bonds of iniquity. A sense of your guilt seized you, and for days and weeks there seemed to be no ray of hope for your poor soul. The darkness became more intense. Comfort forsook your spirit by day, and sleep your eyes by night. But just when a settled despair seemed to seal up your spirit to an awful doom, the light broke, and you sprang from despair to the arms of a forgiving Redeemer, and a joy like that of heaven filled your cup to overflowing. Who was it pitied you in that dark hour and took your sins away?"

As the merchant listened to the thrilling tale, trembling seized his limbs, a sweat broke out upon his brow; and looking up, he saw two hands held out to him. They had been pierced with nails, and were dropping blood. Glancing at the face of the speaker, he saw streams of blood like great tears streaming down that face of love, from the wounds made by the crown of thorns. The side, too, had been pierced with a spear, and the feet were torn and bleeding.

And as he gazed, he awoke. It was a dream. And kneeling upon the floor, he lifted his hands to heaven and cried for pardon, and then and there repledged his soul, his body, and his fortune to Him whose life-blood had been poured out for his salvation.—*Home and Foreign Record.*

Higher Attainments in Religion.

Progress is the great law of Christianity. Religion is a life in the soul which can only be perpetuated and made vigorous by growth. The very idea of development, constant, and harmonious, is implied in being a Christian. He can no more cease growing while the pulse of religion beats high within him, than a child can stop growing! It is his nature to develope and expand as it is that of fire to burn, or of cold to chill and freeze. The child of God must move toward God and spiritual things by the spiritual gravitation of his nature. There are forces within him, which impel him to the pursuit of greater acquisitions in grace and purity. He must be farther to-day than he was yesterday from the world and its spirit and nearer to God and the cross, if he live the true life of the Christian, "Let us go on to perfection" is the inspiration of the Bible and the motto of all the lovers of Jesus. Such is the religion of the Gospel. Nothing is still in the world in which he lives.—Everything moves about him, and he must move too. With no violence to the sentiment of the Poet, we may slightly alter his verse, and say,

"The heights of good men reached and kept,
Were not attained by sudden flight;
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night:

Higher attainments in religion then should be our aim, our steady, uniform purpose, Christian reader. Many of us would not like to risk the heavenly future on our present moral fitness for the decisions of eternity, we hope to be ready for the crowns of the other life when with us this is over; but that is not the question. Are we becoming more like Christ every day we live?—Do we find more joy in religion and religious things every day, and less interest in the world and worldly things? These are the questions which it most becomes us to ask ourselves. If we have a higher relish for unseen and eternal things, a deeper interest in Christ and his religion each day we live, than are we in the path of duty and safety. Let us seek then for higher developments and deeper experiences in grace.—Let us remain no longer at the base of the spiritual Pisgah, and, whistfully looking up, exclaim with Watts,

"Could we but climb where Moses stood,
And view the landscape o'r,
Not Jordan's stream, nor death cold flood,
Should fright us from the shore!"

But let us clamber up its mountain steeps, till we reach its glorious summit, and then joyfully sing with Charles Wesley,

"The promised land from Pisgah's top,
I now exult to see;
My hope is full, O glorious hope
Of immortality."

—*Meth. Protestant.*

Value of Temptation Overcome.

In Dr. Bushnell's recently published volume of sermons, entitled "Christ and his Salvation," is a discourse on the "Fasting and Temptation of Jesus," the burden of which is to show that event in the life of the Saviour to have been the crucial point in the great work given him to do. Having established that position, he closes the discourse with this general improvement:—

In just the same manner, there is, I conceive, in the life of almost every Christian disciple, a crisis, where everything most eventful, as regards the Christian value of his life to himself, and of his consecration to God, especially hinges, and where, as we may figure, his grand temptation meets him. Other temptations have gone before, others will come after; here is *the* temptation of his personal call and opportunity. What it will be, or in what form it will come, cannot of course be specified; enough that it will commonly bring the strong present conviction with it of a great Christian crisis arrived, on which all the heaviest results of character and service done for God are depending. At such a time, there is to be no haste or precipitation. The time for a grand, practical settlement of the life has come, and if the man has any gravity of meaning or high aspiration, he will meet the crisis practically, and if possible, understandingly. To let go society, pleasure, profit, and the table, nay, to get away from them, will be a kind of relief. Anything, any campaign of prayer and thought, and self-devotement, will be accepted heartily, and be long enough protracted to settle the result finally and firmly. One great reason, brethren, why we make so poor a figure of fitfulness and inconstancy, is that we go by jets of emotion, or gusts of popular impulse, or sallies of extempore resolve; we do not settle our question upon a footing of counsel and inward consecration, and, in fact, do not take time to settle anything; least of all, any such great crisis of life. Moses drew off into the wilderness, and was there forty years, getting ready for the call that was already half uttered in his heart. Paul retired into Arabia, and was there three years, gathering up his soul and soul's fuel for the grand apostleship of word and sacrifice. So the Christian, every Christian, who has come to his crisis, will take time for the settlement of his plan, and the equipment of his undertaking—if not forty days, then as many as are wanted.

Having this high work upon you, brethren, silence and solitude will be congenial, and the fasting of Jesus will be remembered by you with a strange sympathy—all in the endeavor to come out on your future, thoroughly consecrated to it, even as he was to his. Drawn to him in such profoundest sympathy with his temptation, O how tenderly and approvingly will he be drawn to you, pouring, as he best may, all the riches of his forty day's struggle and consecration to sacrifice upon you. "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted." Any life is great and blessed, into which you are entered, upon this high footing with Christ your master. You cannot be worse handled by men, or what is called fortune, than he was; cannot be more faithful to God's high purpose in you, or more consciously great, and happy and true; and that, if I am right, is the only kind of life at all worthy of you. And then, at the end, it will be yours to say, in the sublime confidence also of your Master, "I have glorified thee on the earth, I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."

Where Art Thou?

This question may properly be addressed at any time to every communicant member of the visible Church. In a period like the present, while excitements, strong and many, are all tending to withdraw the eyes of believers from the person of their Lord, the question, Where art thou? has a special pertinence. It ought to be heard, heeded, and answered by all who remember the vows they have taken and the professions they have made. Are you, Christian friend, with Christ? Are you openly, warmly, and boldly on his side? Do you give his cause and his work your best affections and untiring services? Or are you forsaking him at a time when you should be found faithful and loyal? These are questions which concern every conscientious confessor of the faith. A few hints thrown out here may, perhaps, aid in determining the answers they should receive.

They who will be with and follow Christ do not neglect secret and private devotion. They enter into their closets and pray for wisdom, strength, courage, and every other quality needed for the daily fight of faith. They study their guide-book—the holy Bible—with an earnest desire to know and keep its precepts, and with sincere resolution to conform their conduct to the will of their divine Saviour.

As heads of families, they do not forget nor omit the duty of gathering the household daily to hear the words of truth, and invoke the great Parent to bestow upon all that blessing which maketh rich and addeth no sorrow.

And as members of the Church, they do not neglect the assembling of themselves together for social prayer and exhortation, nor refuse to aid the Sunday-school, nor content themselves with a listless hearing of the word preached.

All who are really and truly on the Lord's side, zealous for the spread of truth, the conversion of souls, and the upbuilding of Zion, testify by their habits and conduct that their profession stands in something better than words. They are wide-awake Christians. They pray and work and give, agonising in soul, with constrained desire to see the cause of Christ triumph.

The cold, the indifferent, the lukewarm members of the Church are many. They have a name to live, and are dead. They feel and show little or no zeal corresponding to the magnitude of the interests they have espoused.

Can nothing be done to arouse Church members of this sort to a sense of their duty? Can they not be made to see that while they are professing Christ with words they are denying him in deeds? Have our pulpits no notes of warning, clear and loud, and long enough to awaken the sleepers and sluggards who choose to slumber even while their Lord is being betrayed into the hands of sinful men?

These are days in which the world is calling for an earnest ministry. Iniquity abounds, popular infidelity is on the increase, worldliness reigns well-nigh supreme. And yet the Church and ministry have power with God to prevail over all foes. Why is it not put forth? Why do the ways of Zion languish? Why are advances of the Christian army arrested?

"O Israel! to thy tents repair;
Why thus secure on hostile ground?"

—*Christian Intelligencer.*

General Miscellany.

Provincial Confederation.

The question of the Confederation of the Provinces is now occupying so greatly the public attention, that no apology is necessary for devoting to it some portion of our space. The two principal speeches in favour of the proposed scheme, and in reply to the objections against it, at the recent meetings in this city, were made by Adams G. Archibald, Esq., and the Hon. Prov. Secretary, Dr. Tupper, two of the Delegates at the Quebec Convention. We regret that we cannot do justice to the masterly efforts of those gentlemen, as we can give but extracts from their speeches.

EXTRACT FROM MR. ARCHIBALD'S SPEECH.

Mr. James Tobin told you that it was quite true that Great Britain is to cast us off, for Mr. Cardwell said in the most distinct terms we are to be thrust from the paternal home. We were to be kicked like spaniels from the paternal table, but where were we to go? Where we to cringe to our old father's government and still keep the spirit of freedom, or like spaniels be content to take the crumbs which fall from his table. I could not help thinking as I heard that gentleman, of a remark of a friend in the cars a few days ago in reference to a person who was entirely opposed to progress. "Why," said he, "If that man came into the world as a tadpole he would never have the ambition to become a frog." Mr. McDonald tells you in the most emphatic manner that all my statements were inaccurate. He says, the three Provinces are actually at this moment spending thirteen millions of money; and he undertakes to ask you, if this money is spent now, how can Mr. Archibald say twelve millions will be sufficient for the expenses of the Confederacy. Did he not see that these thirteen millions *included* a million and a half of local services that don't form a portion of the burthen at all. He has a week to study his speech in, and he reads off to you a column of figures in which he makes a blunder of one million and a half. Mr. Stairs showed us that Canada was paying 6 per cent. Why Canada, the "bankrupt country," has borrowed sixty-five millions of money, and for that at this moment mark you, she is only paying on an average *five and a third* per cent.—And this gentleman has undertaken to instruct the community of Halifax, though he has not taken the trouble to learn the very A B C of the arguments which he has to address to you. He tells you that when I said this money could be got for five per cent., I was drawing on my imagination. On what pray was he drawing? I should excuse him with reference to Canada; but when he, the conductor of a newspaper undertakes to say that we are paying 6 per cent. upon our debt, though we only pay $261,000 on the entire debt $5,000,000 or only a little over 5 per cent.—can you pardon his ignorance with reference to his own country?—I don't care much about the personal observations that are made. But I do care to be able to show that the case I have to present before the community is one that deserves the approval of your judgment. Mr. McDonald—and I notice him particularly now, because he appears to be the spokesman—the doubleheaded man of his party—for we have had the honour of hearing him on no less than two occasions this evening, this gentleman who makes a mistake of a million and a half in the very outset of his speech—who does not know the interest we pay on our debt—goes on to quote the speech of Mr. Galt with regard to the building of the railway. In this very speech Mr. Galt tells the people of Lower Canada that it will be much less burthensome to the Lower Colonies than it would be without the Union; and yet (Mr. McD.) endeavours to draw from this statement the argument that the Canadian statesman said the road was to built at our expense. For hear what Mr. Galt says:—"In the case of the Lower Provinces, the completion of the Intercolonial Railway by the general Government would be less burthensome than if it were done by them alone." If Mr. Galt says it is less burthensome upon the maritime Provinces, how can Mr. McDonald stand up here and make the assertions he did? But he lays down *ex cathedra* another doctrine which I shall endeavour to sift. He tells you with the glibness and the emphasis which we have heard repeated on every occasion since this discussion commenced, that the tariff of Canada is one of 20 per cent, while that of Nova Scotia is but one of 10 per cent. The whole revenue of Nova Scotia is derived from specific and advolorem duties. But a large portion of the articles imported into Nova Scotia, at all events the more expensive articles, are those which pay a specific duty. There are six in our Tariff which pay nearly one half of our revenue. In the first place Tea and Coffee, Sugar and Molasses, Tobacco and Liquors. From the Tariff on these articles, we derive over the sum of $423,000. If we want to try how the taxation of Canada would effect us it is easy to apply the tariff of that country to them, and see what they will yield.

Let us briefly sum up the results I have here arrived at. Now if the tariff of Nova Scotia is only one-half that of Canada, you would fairly assume that these articles, when subjected to the ordeal of a Canadian tariff, would yield something like $800,000. But what do they really yield? You will find upon the principle on which this statement I hold is made out, that the duty on these entire articles only yielded, under the tariff of 1863, the sum of $390,000. The burthen is less by $30,000 than that of Nova Scotia. Now this will require a little explanation from me in order to show the principle on which I have made it out. Everybody knows that the burthen of a tariff is the amount that the people of a country pay on the articles they consume. In Canada a certain policy is pursued with regard to certain articles, and the same here. In Canada they have the distillation of spirits, and they imposed in 1863, up to the time when the tables that are made the subject of discussion was in force, upon liquors that were distilled in the country, the sum of 15 cents a gallon. They imposed a large sum upon rum; and the result was that foreign rum was excluded altogether, and the people of Canada resorted to the whiskey of their own manufacture. And how much do they drink of this? During the past year the whiskey that was distilled in Canada amounted to 1,815,073 galls. How much rum was imported? Only 39,397 galls. Does not everybody see that the people of Canada were drinking whiskey that they manufactured, for which they paid 15 cents.

If a man drinks the whiskey manufactured in the country he has to pay 15 cents. The same facts exists with regard to tobacco. After the 10th of May, 1864, not one farthing was imposed upon the tobacco manufactured in Canada. The result was that the importations which were large a few years ago gradually dwindled down until the entire population hardly used a single pound of imported tobacco last year. Am I understood when I tell you that the whole duties that were paid on tobacco were a mere song. Suppose the people of Canada chose to accept the tariff which has been adopted in this country, and put 40 cents a gallon upon all rum and prevented distillation. Then on the 3,900,000 gallons they would have one million and a half of duties; on the 8,000,000 lbs. of tobacco at 5 cents, there would be raised $400,000. Will anybody pretend to tell me that these articles are taxed in Canada, or that the tariff is heavier than in Nova Scotia in respect to them? Nobody has heard me say on this platform that the tariff of Canada was not larger than that of Nova Scotia, but what I have always contended, is, that it bore no proportion to the statements of gentlemen who call ours only stuff and nonsense. I find that in the system of Canada there is a vast amount of things which are admitted entirely duty free,—whilst we have a certain amount of free articles, Canada has over 80 which are free, and many of which pay 5 and 10 per cent. in our own country. I will select one or two of them, and show they form no insignificant item in the calculation, and fairly afford a subject for the consideration of an intelligent community. Last year we imported into the Province cordage to the amount of $423,000, upon which we paid 5 per cent duties, when in Canada it would have gone in free. When I tell you that in the Canadian tariff there are over 80 articles free, is it not clear that the burthen of taxation must be borne more heavily by other articles that remain. Therefore if the Canadian people pay larger taxes upon specific articles, and admit other articles free is it a greater burden to the people? What I don't hesitate to say is, that whilst the tariff of Canada is larger than that of Nova Scotia, it does not bear as large a proportion as the gentlemen on the other side have endeavoured to make it appear. In a former speech I stated that the whole amount that the Confederation would require for carrying on its civil government would be twelve millions. Mr. Stairs challenged that statement. I have already showed you that the whole Canadian debt pays 5½ per cent interest. The entire amount we would have to pay on the Canadian debt, assuming it to remain as it is, would be 5¼. Therefore Mr. Stairs' calculations are wrong to the extent of £104,000 a year. Again there is an error with regard to the interest on our debt. He tells you that we have borrowed to pay a certain interest to Newfoundland and P. E. Island. Where he got that I don't know. We have to pay interest not at 5½ per cent but 5 per cent. on a certain amount. Is it necessary to borrow money to do that? If Mr. Stairs had made such a statement in the backwoods I would have understood it. But both he and Mr. McDonald say Mr. Archibald has made an enormous mistake with regard to the amount for the subsidy to the steamboats. At this moment the people of Canada hardly pay a penny for that subsidy; the postage which is received on the packages that come to Canada by these steamers nearly pays the entire amount. Why, then, put it into the calculation at all? I told you that it was not for the purpose of keeping up that particular line of steamers, but to keep up the communication between P. E. Island, Newfoundland and the neighbouring Provinces.

I come to the statement about an army and navy. I am sure that the men who represent the intelligence and wealth of the great country at the west, are governed by the same principles that actuate the public sentiment of this country. Am I to assume that these men are to be recklessly extravagant—to tax themselves largely? Therefore to say that an enormous sum is to be imposed for an army and navy, unless it is necessary, is to say that which no person ought to say. But there are the $15,000,000 to complete the great canals that are to run up into the great west. Mr. Brown, in a public speech delivered in the midst of his constituents, said that this was a thing on which the delegates were unanimous. Look at this document, and you will find that the delegates looked upon the opening and enlargement of the canals as of great public advantage to the confederacy, and so soon as the circumstances of the country will justify it, they will proceed with these works. Does any person feel that it is not right? Are these canals not to be enlarged in order to enable our ships to go to the granary of the west? Is not that important to you? But still important as this is, it is not an enterprise which we can undertake in the present condition of our finances. Not until the representatives of Lower Canada, who have the same interest in the matter as ourselves,—not until the representatives of the Maritime Provinces feel that this is a great work, superior to all ordinary considerations, and agree to tax themselves for the general benefit, will these be undertaken.

Now I think I may fairly dismiss that question of the $12,000,000. I say to you, gentlemen, that in making up that estimate I did so with the most anxious desire that not one farthing should be omitted from the calculations that ought to be fairly there; but I will tell you that every item that I have put down is estimated at a much larger sum than my own judgment would sanction. It is utterly impossible, I believe, that the Confederacy could require more than this sum, unless indeed there is the greatest extravagance. We are told that the people of Nova Scotia are greater consumers than those of Canada—that the people of Canada are poor whilst those of this Province are rich. The people of Canada it should be remembered, grow almost every thing they require, with the exception of cotton. Now look at the real consumption of the population. In this great country of Canada they eat, drink, and are me[rry] [illegible] as we are. In the first place what [illegible] In Nova Scotia they drink [illegible] brandy, gin, and wine, and [illegible] whiskey and rum. The [illegible] is 424,162 gals.; but [illegible] actually drink 5,014,006 [illegible] head, whilst we only drink [illegible] and a quarter. They also have a great fancy for beer. We drink 275,000 gallons, whilst they use 6,000,000. Therefore, they drink more than they ought to drink if they were good Christians like us. However, these "paupers" with whom we are going to ally ourselves do not actually drink as much tea and coffee as we do. We consume 213,000 lbs. of coffee, 1,125,000 lbs. of tea; whilst they consume 1,140,000 of coffee, and 4,976,168 of tea.

Although they don't use molasses to the same extent that we do, they are perfect hurricanes at sugar. Nova Scotia uses 4,001,455 lbs.; whilst the Canadians consume 36,292,711, or 6,000,000 lbs. more than their fair proportion. But besides this, they actually manufacture 16,000,000 lbs. of maple sugar of their own. Therefore, putting this along-side the 36,000,000 pounds, it will be seen that they have a reasonable amount of luxuries at the table. Therefore, when I find that they use 6,000,000 more than their share, I shall require some one else than Mr. McDonald to tell me that this is a poor and miserable country. Again, there is tobacco, we use 622,000 lbs. in this country; and in Canada 5,060,000; therefore they smoked more than 3,000,000 more than we do. Now there are certain articles which we consume more largely than Canada. There is cotton, linen, silk, and woollen goods. Whilst we use in N[ova Sco]tia $1,720,000, they only use $9,788,865, [illegible] $5,21 per head in this Province, and $3,88 in Canada. Again, we use more iron hardware; we imported $762,429, and the people of Canada, $2,160,2[illegible]. Nova Scotia has 1,028,032 acres under cultivation, valued at $18,801,345. Upper Canada has 6,051,619 acres of cultivated land. At the same rate of valuation [illegible] the land of Upper Canada should be worth but $108,000,000, but it is actually $295,000,000. Therefore, whilst acre for acre, which are subjected to the plough, are worth $18 here, the land of Canada are worth $48. Does any one say that a farmer who has a farm worth $18 is worth as much as one whose land is valued at $48. But let us take Lower Canada, if gentlemen object that I have taken the garden of the Provinces. The cultivated lands of that section amount to 4,804,335 and are worth at this moment $171,563,069, or over $42 an acre. If you take the forks, rakes, and agricultural implements of Upper Canada their value will pay the entire debt of these lower Provinces. They were worth in 1861 $18,637,000. Is that a country which is very poor? The only fear that I have had was that the time was far distant when we could form a partnership with this great and flourishing country. The whole debt of Canada at the present moment is $62,500,000, at least that is all she brings into the Confederation. If you take the live stock of Canada, valued at $79,000,000, you will pay not only her entire debt, but that of the lower Provinces beside. Do you suppose, then, that a country is ruined when its circumstances are such as these facts exhibit. All these gentlemen occupy one bed together, but one covering is not enough for them. When Mr. Miller pulls one end, he exposes Mr. Stairs' flank, and *vice versa*. Canada is going to be filled up by a large population, and what is to happen to his posterity in 1901? My advice to him is, if, he cannot get rid of the difficulty in any way, not to have any posterity at all. The people of Upper Canada, with a population of five millions, are actually sharing with every man in Nova Scotia the burthen of the debt. As they increase, they are diminishing the ratio of the debt, so that when it overtakes his posterity, actually one-half of it is removed.

THE HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH.

No one who witnessed the confident attitude which Mr. Stairs assumed the other night when he placed his budget, as it has been called, before you—and compared it with the one he exhibits to-night when making a vain attempt to challenge the refutations which has been given of his figures, but must feel that his position, however respectable as a merchant, however respectable as a member of this community—and no man surpasses him in this respect—he has yet to learn that merchant as he is, there are gentlemen in the learned professions who are prepared to discuss even figures with him. He has been attempting here what Mr. Dorion, with infinitely greater success, has been doing in Lower Canada. Mr. Dorion, the talented leader of the opposition in Lower Canada on this great question, has put forth the ablest manifesto in opposition, but on what does he base his argument? Why he basis it on the fact that *this arrangement has sacrificed Canada to the Lower Provinces* in a financial point of view—that no man can view the question without coming to the conclusion that these provinces are to be a burthen on Canada for ever—and let me say, he has made out a much stronger case than has Mr. Stairs from his point of view. There are certain facts which the public will understand better than a long array of figures. I regretted to see in a speech of a commercial gentleman in this city, what I could not regard but as an unfair act. It has been corrected to some little extent after the pressure that was applied last night. You have seen a gentleman professing to give to the people the facts upon which they could form their calculations as to the relative amount of taxation that would exist under a Canadian and Nova Scotian tariff. He took up a Canadian and Nova Scotian tariff and selected such articles as he pleased and ranged them column by column and left the great body of the people of Nova Scotia without the means of knowing that he had passed by 80 articles that went duty free in Canada and were taxed in Nova Scotia. I say that the people of Nova Scotia are able to appreciate the weakness of a cause that required such unfairness to bolster it up. But I also say that Mr. Stairs is not able to take the tariff of Nova Scotia and make such a statement as will give a perfectly accurate relative amount of taxation. The materials don't exist as the Tariffs of the two countries are constructed on different principles. I will tell you what he can do. He can take the whole amount of revenue raised from customs and excise in both countries and divide them among the relative populations; but that would not suit him, because he would have to show that the taxation *per capita* in Canada is but $2,35 compared with that of Nova Scotia of $2,60. It is true the tariff of Canada in some respects is larger than ours but why take the tariff of that country? Is it to be the tariff of the Confederacy? No. What does Mr. Galt, whose opinions have been so often quoted during the discussions by these gentlemen, say on this point? When you have the authority of all engaged in this scheme, that this is not to be the tariff of the Confederation, how can these gentlemen construct arguments upon it? There can be no comparison, from the very fact that not only 80 or 90 articles that are free in Canada are taxed in this country, but that out of $48,000,000 worth of goods imported into Canada in 1862 no less than $24,000,000 were free. We have heard a great deal about the debt of Canada, but he forgot to tell you it exhibits $26,000,000 in canals and $29,000,000 of railways—or no less than $54,000,000 of public works, which are likely to be productive as well as our own. So I say he refuted himself in his own speech. The most insignificant toll upon the vessels passing through the canals would soon reduce the debt just as much as it was found necessary. If such a policy was not pursued it would be because the carrying trade of Nova Scotia would find it necessary to fight against the imposition of such tolls,—because the maritime portion of the Confederacy would find it to their advantage to have the privilege of passing to the lakes to bring down the rich produce of the Great West duty free.

I must turn your attention to a subject on which a very enthusiastic challenge has been thrown down by Mr. Annand, and that is, in reference to the local legislature, and the local service. If Mr. Annand did not succeed in sufficiently demolishing Mr. Stairs, Mr. Jones came to the rescue and finished them both. I must say with reference to Mr. Jones who is a warm personal friend, whatever course his duty may compel him to take—though he may treat me as Sir Robert Peel was treated by his friends when he decided that it was his duty to repeal the Common Laws and cheapen bread—though I may lose his political support, I trust that our personal friendship will remain. I regret that these gentlemen have not been more accustomed to public life, for perhaps they may feel more keenly what is said in discussion than those who have been longer exposed to public criticism. Mr. McDonald is dissatisfied because we did not decide what Confederacy would cost, but did he not know that the government of which he was an officer could not tell what a Queen's Printer would cost until he was in office three years. Mr. Jones has not only struck a balance between the Local Government and General Government, but has obligingly constructed an administration. In the document containing the scheme arranged at Quebec you will see the reason why no public man in Nova Scotia has been able to say exactly what sort of government, or legislature would be constructed, for you will find that that duty devolves not upon the Delegates, not even upon the government, but upon the local parliaments of each province; and we must wait therefore until we bring together the different members of the two Houses—which I hope will be on the 9th February. But as I said my friend Mr. Jones, has come to my rescue and given a detailed scheme, and has exhibited an amount of administrative talent that makes me more regretful than ever that the [Par]liament of his country has not the benefit of his services. He [illegible] the annual loss to the Province of $169,184. But I must correct his figures a little. He has made an error in the amount paid to the Judges of $3,200; and in charging criminal prosecutions to the local, when they belong to the General Government—that is, $2,400. Then he omitted what there was no excuse for omitting, having Mr. Annand alongside of him—what every patriot in Nova Scotia valuing the peace and security of his country admits we must pay, $100,000 for our defences—or $80,000 more than Mr. Jones put down in his scheme. I have added the little item that he lost sight of, of $200,000 for the Intercolonial Railway. Put down these omissions together and you have to deduct from his loss of $169,284 no less than $285,600, giving a balance according to his own figures in favor of the province of $116,313.

Mr. Annand felt it necessary to avow himself in favor of Union. I don't wonder at that, when, on the public records of this country, there stands the evidence that he went to Canada and came back an advocate of Union with that country. He did injustice to his country if, being impressed with such a sentiment as he has expressed now, he came back and laid on the table of the parliament of his country documents to prove that he was an advocate of Union with Canada. I consider that in his past public life there is nothing which reflects greater credit upon him and the government of which Mr. Howe was the leader than that they did their best to secure the blessings which they believed would result from a Union with Canada.

Now with the prospect of being Finance Minister of the Anti-Confederates he has lowered his position from advocating a union of British North America to a union of the maritime provinces. What does he want such a union for? Does he not know that while a union with New Brunswick would not confer the great advantages now offered, every argument that he has urged against a union with Canada, exists in still greater degree against New Brunswick. When he presents to you as an argument why Nova Scotia should not unite with Canada that she is a defenceless country, does he forget that New Brunswick is in a more defenceless condition? When he says that Canada's debt is too large, I ask him if that of New Brunswick is not larger than ours. She has to pay $3 per head, we pay but $2.60, and Canada $2.25 per head. He stultifies himself when he says he wishes to unite all these maritime provinces and yet opposes the larger union on the ground alleged. He would not allow you to manage your own local affairs—but removes from your own control your education, and roads and bridges, and other service now left you under our scheme, but would enter into a legislative partnership with New Brunswick, notwithstanding her debt and taxation and defenceless condition. When he occupies such a position in the face of his previous opinions as exhibited by the public records, it is too evident he has surrendered his judgement to the dictation of those by whom he is surrounded. He declares that the railway can be obtained without this confederation. I hold the evidences under my hand to prove the contrary. I have always advocated an Intercolonial Railway; only when we were offered it at too high a price did I, though one of the members of Cumberland, through which 45 miles of it must pass, stand up and oppose its construction on such terms. But that agr[illegible] [w]ith the paper on which it was written. Let me say, however, that I believe Mr. John Sandfield McDonald was an ardent friend of the railway, and his government entered into that arrangement with good faith, but no sooner had they published the terms than Canada, East and West, rose up and told them in language which could not be misunderstood, that they were doomed men if they attempted to carry such a scheme out. And therefore Mr. Galt is right when he tells you that neither he nor anybody else dare go into Parliament and ask them to construct an intercolonial railway without this union, even upon the extravagant terms offered by us. Mr. Annand then tells you that we can have free trade and commercial union, and a uniform currency without this scheme. Why, then, did he not accomplish it when he was in power? But he charges us with endeavoring to keep information from the people. It has been only the opponents of Confederation who have endeavoured to prevent discussion taking place on this question, and if we have had these meetings, it has been through the efforts of the friends of this Union. Have we not acted with the utmost candor? We stated on the very threshold of this question that it is pressed upon you now because there is not a statesman in British America engaged in this scheme but feels that, calculated as it is to expand trade, build up manufactures, and increase our prosperity, this union is demanded by the law of self-preservation. Nor do we deny that a political crisis in Canada has to a large extent hastened the matter and enabled us to obtain terms we could not expect. But we are told a great deal about an army and a navy, and ex-