

and develop the social, political and material prosperity of the country, then I implore the House and the country to lay aside all prejudices and accept the scheme."

Sir George E. Cartier, leader of the French-Canadians: "The matter resolved itself into this, either we must obtain British North American Confederation or be absorbed in an American Confederation. . . . The annexationists were aware that so soon as this project was adopted there would be no avail in any cry of separation to form a part of the American Union."

Hon. George Brown said: "I believe that, while granting security for local interests, the federation of the British provinces will give free scope for carrying out the will of the people in general matters—that it will draw closer the bonds that unite us to Great Britain—and that it will lay the foundations deep and strong of a powerful and prosperous people. . . . I am in favor of the union of the provinces because in the event of war it will enable all the colonies to defend themselves better and give more efficiently to the Empire than they could do separately. . . . The threatened repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, the threatened abolition of the American bonding system for goods in transit to and from these provinces, all combine at this moment to arrest earnest attention to the gravity of the situation and unite us all in one vigorous effort to meet the emergency like men."

No sooner was the Dominion of Canada launched on its new career than efforts were made to bring under its control the remaining portion of British North America. By a charter granted over two hundred years before the Canadian federation was formed, a fur trading company, known as the Hudson's Bay Company, was given the exclusive right of the fur trade of what is sometimes known as Prince Rupert's Land or the Northwest Territories, extending from the United States boundary to the Arctic Ocean, and from the boundaries of Ontario on the east to the Rocky Mountains on the west—a distance of about 1,000 miles. The interests of the Hudson's Bay Company in these lands were purchased by Canada for 300,000 pounds, and in 1870 the work of extending Canada westward was begun by the formation of the Province of Manitoba. In 1871 British Columbia on the Pacific coast—a province extending from the American boundary to Alaska and eastward to the Rockies—was admitted into Confederation. In 1873 the Province of Prince Edward Island, on the Atlantic coast, joined its fortunes