

In his place in the Legislature, in the Session of 1865, Mr. Galt, then Minister of Finance, said:

"We may well look forward to our future with hopeful anticipation of seeing the realization, not merely of what we have hitherto thought would be the commerce of Canada, great as that might become, but to the possession of Atlantic ports, which we shall help to build up to a position equal to that of the chief cities of the American Union."

In the Provincial Assembly of Nova Scotia, in the Session of 1866, Sir Charles Tupper, then Provincial Secretary, said:

"What future can Nova Scotia have apart from a Union of B. N. America? Look at the comparatively insignificant position we occupy, and tell me, surrounded as we are by hostile tariffs, with a mere handful of population, what future we can look forward to, unless it is in connection with the consolidation of B. N. America under one government. Looking only at the commercial aspects of the question, as the expansion of our trade, and our great facilities for manufacturing, as a matter of surprise that the most intelligent men in the country have continued as they never have done on any other question. The geographical position we occupy can be of little service, and the great resources we possess are all expensively useless and can never obtain full development, except as Mr. Howe has said, by making this Province the Atlantic frontier for a mighty British American empire. Let us turn our attention to the question of an Intercolonial Railway. Great as may be its commercial advantages, though it may make Nova Scotia the wheat of B. N. America, everybody knows that it has been stated time after time by Mr. Howe as having the very foundation of the security and advancement of B. N. America."

In a speech delivered in the House of Assembly in 1867, Sir Charles said:

"For twenty years all parties have been willing to admit that the construction of this work (the I. C. R.) was a matter of the most vital concern to the people of this country. I will not detain the House by going into any elaborate quotations by which the leading men of these Provinces have shown that they believed that the question of the Intercolonial Railway was fraught with the most important consequences to the advancement of the Province of Nova Scotia, and when I state to the House that after every effort had been tried and failed, this scheme of Union accomplished that work on terms such as no man had ever ventured to ask for the people, I feel that it is not only in the constitution of the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council, but also in respect to this great work that the delegates from the Maritime Provinces brought back the indisputable evidence of the earnest disposition of Canada to unite their fortunes with our own, in a common union, which should be beneficial to all. It is true that it was a matter of

great importance for Canada to obtain this union—that it opened a door for the removal of the great difficulties that have distracted that country; and whatever may be the extent and reasonableness of Canada, and they are inexhaustible, I might almost say illimitable, it can never occupy the position it should, except it has no outlet to the ocean. Therefore, it is not strange that the delegates from the Maritime Provinces came back with all the guarantees they could require for the advancement of the country."

In his speech at Richmond, delivered the 24th of January 1878, Sir Charles Tupper said:

"There is one other thing that I feel called upon to say, and it is this: while we are deliberating upon the great question which interests not only the city or county, but the whole Dominion as well, whether it is the business of Canada to be allowed to go to build up a port in the United States? With such a question before us, why chatter about a few pence? Suppose we could accomplish such an object as that, what would it matter even though for a time we do not pay running expenses? In dealing with a question of this nature, we should not come down to the hair a penny. But, gentlemen, it will not be long before we will be working in the government of this country, and then, was the man who gave counsel nobly by me in the past, we will place this to some where it ought to be—at West's wharf, and you will see him, not only there but in us, clearman, with a grain elevator and every thing else that makes a real waterside terminus."

In his speech delivered in the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia in 1865, Hon. A. G. A. (then) Lord, of the delegates said:

"I repeat, gentlemen, who have always attached great importance to the completion of our work (the I. C. R.) whether there was ever a time when the most sanguine advocates could have anticipated that it would be accomplished upon terms so advantageous to the Province as those now within our reach. Surely it there be any weakness in the other argument in favor of union, the prospect of the immediate realization of this great enterprise is one that ought to have great weight. The advantages that Nova Scotia would derive from the completion of the work have been so often dilated upon, that I do not consider it necessary to refer to them at the present moment, further than to say, that with Nova Scotia the great forefront of the Continent behind us, with Halifax the great entrepot of the markets of the Far West, with steamers running out fortnightly but daily, to Europe, with the mail communication not only of our own colonies but of the United States, passing over our soil, with all the commercial and national prosperity that such a state of things would produce, who can estimate the position we would occupy in a few years' time, should this union be accomplished?"