

price is much higher in the United States than in Canada. We cannot induce our children to settle and cultivate the land in Canada, because the produce will hardly pay the labour of cultivation—the land, in many cases, placing the proprietors of the soil in a worse position than the hired laborer. In fact, the labourer without land in the United States can earn more wages than many proprietors in Canada can obtain for the produce of their labour on their own farms: consequently, the land in Canada is of little value, and this is one cause why property in Canada will not command more than one half the money that similar property will sell for in the United States. I think we should adopt some means to keep our mechanics and farmers in our country—let them fill up the present parishes and townships—let them extend the settlement, and not leave the country a desert. I would appeal to you, why is it that so many of the wealthy, moral, and industrious people who emigrate from the British Isles, come to New York, and settle in the United States, and many of them, after passing through Canada, proceed to the Western States, thus enriching that country by their fortunes, their experience, their skill, their labour, and their example.—If Canada formed two independent States, in connection with the American Union, I believe a large portion of them would settle with us. If we are united with the United States, we shall have free trade, from Gaspé, through all the States and Territories of the United States to the Pacific Ocean. We shall have free navigation with all the nations of the earth. We shall have a trade so large, that we can send promptly, and at the lowest freight, any of our produce, fish, &c., to any part of the world, where it may command the best price. Our farmers would have the choice of all the markets of the United States, of Canada, and of all the nations of the world. Our manufactures would then have a fair chance of competing, because they would be equally protected with the American, by their tariff. Then we should have ten times as many ships in Quebec as we have now. Now, Sir, look at the American canals, railroads, steamboats, and contrast them with our own; look at the steamboats leaving New York daily, with their 500 passengers each, and ours, leaving Quebec. Look at the prosperity that everywhere prevails among the cultivators, the mechanics, and the merchants, in the United States; see their immense merchant ships, carrying on their trade with all the nations of the world. Sir, we work for our country, for the whole family of Canada, and not for party, or persuasion, or place, *La Patrie avant tout*. We wish to exercise a real fraternal kind feeling towards all the people of Canada, and would take a legal constitutional course, and would, in respectful language, petition Her Majesty's Government to dissolve our political connection. Sir, I think no one who has a spark of liberty in his breast can object to this course. But, Mr. Chairman, because we are able to stand upright and candidly declare our conviction, and not bow down to any idol; and because we are, by Divine permission, enabled to take, as men, our rank in the scale of creation, a little lower than the angels, but not below creeping things, we must not be severe on our opponents; some of them may not be at liberty to give their attention to both sides of the question; we must be charitable: our cause is good; we can afford to disregard their abuse; we must overcome evil with good. Sir, I believe that many of the people of England, would be glad to hear that Canada had asked for a separation, to enable them, with honor, to dissolve our political connection, and thereby relieve them from the expense of defending us, and at the same time greatly increase their own trade. Sir, I trust that when this Province separates from the Parent State, the children may retain their affection and respect for the parent—and receive the Father's blessing.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

B. HOLMES, Esq., M.P.P., said:—The 2nd resolution was put into his hands since he entered the room, with a request that he would move it. He had hoped to see it in the hands of some more capable individual, who could have done it more justice, nevertheless he would proceed with it; but in so doing he might be permitted to offer a few remarks upon what he humbly conceived to be the necessity which compelled to the course now under consideration, as well as the position in which, personally, we stand, when offering suggestions whereby we may escape the evils that beset us. Already had been put forth, in an Address to the People of Canada, the causes which induced its signers to seek for political change, for annexation to the United States of America, and here it is stated distinctly, that we should advocate only a peaceable separation from, and with the consent of, Great Britain, without which it would be neither desirable nor practicable. I sincerely hope, said Mr. H., nay, I believe, not a man among the signers to that address, affixed his signature under any feel-