

would be completed within three years after Confederation. We are now in the sixth year of our existence as a Dominion, and even the section now in use from Truro to Moncton is only partially completed and hardly safe for travel. In passing over this portion of the road lately I had an opportunity of experiencing some of the disadvantages of the notorious "Grecian Bend," at the Folly Mountains, an appropriate name for the locality of the great blunder, or something worse, at the public expense, not for the public benefit, but likely for the benefit of somebody's coal mine. The least fall of snow renders the road impassable for days. I was myself detained forty-eight hours on my way to this place from this cause. The road was opened for our train after great difficulty, and the train following ours a few hours afterwards, merely from the disturbed drifts, was blockaded in seven feet of snow. This I learned on arriving at Moncton. It is said we are promised a similar mistake in connection with the line of the Bay Verte Canal if we do not profit from our experience.

Then, with regard to the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Union, why is Parliament kept in the dark, while we are informed by telegraph that the legislature of that colony has been dissolved with the view of submitting this question to the people? If new terms of union have been agreed upon, is the question not of sufficient importance to deserve a paragraph in the Speech from the Throne? Must we be content to take the information at second hand from "the tight little island?" I sincerely hope that terms have been concluded that will prove satisfactory to the people of that colony and meet the approval of this Parliament. (Hear, hear.) But why all this mystery where everything should be frank and open? I am exceedingly desirous of seeing all the Maritime Provinces members of this great confederation, and hope the conditions agreed upon will prove just to all the parties interested.

Again, after all the delegations and negotiations for "better terms" to New Brunswick has the Government no policy on that question? Does the ministry intend to surprise our neighbours by an unexpected act of grace and liberality before the close of the Session, or has their claim been quietly ignored? I leave it to my hon. friends from that Province to elicit the information as best they can. I will not detain the House any longer, but I was not disposed to allow the Address to pass without these

general remarks on the policy it foreshadows, or ought to foreshadow. I consider this the proper time for such remarks, and do not agree with gentlemen who think we should have no discussion on the Address. The practice of the British Parliament—and more especially the practice of our colonial legislatures is contrary to that doctrine. When the several subjects alluded to are submitted to this House in detail, and the necessary information regarding them is placed before us—I shall, with no hostile feelings towards the Administration, be prepared to give them a fair and friendly consideration. (Cheers).

Hon. Mr. WILMOT—I have listened to the speech of the hon. mover of the resolution with much pleasure. I noticed, however, that in his remarks he first regretted that the subject of the Caughnawaga Canal had been omitted in the message of His Excellency, and afterwards, he concluded that the Bay Verte was a scheme which might wait a little longer. It seems to me that the people of the west of the Dominion have little regard for the interests of those at the east. I hope I shall not be classed among the parish politicians which an hon. friend speaks about, if I venture to suggest that the Government ought to have a little more regard for the poor people, the poor fishermen to the east of them. At the time of Confederation it was concluded that this body should be the place where the interests of the Maritime Provinces could best be protected, because these Provinces have equal representatives in the Senate with the larger Provinces, but I think that it is in another House that our interests will have to be most earnestly advocated. I bring this matter up here because I wish it to be known that I hope the Representatives of New Brunswick in the House of Commons will insist upon it that New Brunswick shall get justice from the Dominion. The government have been placed in possession of information, statistical information, showing that New Brunswick entered Confederation a prosperous Province. They have evidence to show that every year since confederation that Province has been unable to meet its ordinary expenditures, and are now some \$50,000 short, while they have also statistics showing that New Brunswick has contributed during those years a greater proportion, *per capita* of the indirect taxation of the Dominion than any other province in it. Now, gentlemen have advised us to economize, to introduce municipal institutions. Well, New Brunswick has the same institutions now that she had