

tages which would, in my opinion, accrue to this colony by becoming a Province of the new Dominion. In the first place, we would be put in immediate possession of the most liberal representative institutions—a counterpart, in fact, of those by means of which Canada has made such marvellous progress during the past thirty years, and through which we would manage our own affairs by means of a House of Representatives chosen by, and directly responsible to, the people. In the second place, overland communication would be established and immigration would flow into that great fertile belt between the continental water-shed and Lake Superior, and the tide would very soon flow through the natural gateway into our own rich valleys, and fertile prairies, the only means, in my opinion, by which we can hope to obtain a permanent population. Look at the Western States how they have filled up. Chicago, the village of thirty years ago, has now its population of considerably over half a million. Westward ho! has long been the cry—westward rolls the tide of immigration. Canada is even now throwing open the gates of a country, than which a fairer or more tempting does not exist; and it is the great duty of the hour to join with her in opening up a highway in order to conduct that tide to our own rich and waiting soil. In the third place, the expenditure of one million of dollars of foreign capital in the immediate construction of our end of the road would, of itself, give an impetus to commerce and agriculture that would make itself felt throughout the entire country. Thus would we become an integral part of a Dominion composed of colonists like ourselves, who would understand and appreciate the genius and wants of the country. To this particular locality the scheme offers advantages of a very important and peculiar character. Occupying a proud and commanding position at the head of navigation on the Lower Fraser, Yale would practically be the terminus of overland communication. Need I, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, stop to explain what that imports, so far as this town is concerned? Need I explain to this intelligent audience the advantages of having not semi-weekly, nor even daily, but almost hourly communication with the seaboard—not two steamers, but a dozen

or more constantly plying upon the Lower Fraser? These are advantages so inevitable and so obvious as to need no remark from me. Shall we hesitate to accept our destiny—a destiny so glorious and so rich in immediate advantage—so pregnant with future promise? Canada wants us, is ready to take us upon the most favorable terms. She is ready to relieve us of our debt, expend a million in making our end of the road, give us full powers of self-government, help us to pay the expense of our Provincial Government, and send us population. The cry of the Government at Ottawa is, "From the Atlantic to the Pacific." Shall we be content to remain as we are, struggling under a crushing debt, credit gone, self-respect fast sinking under a condition of political serfdom; or shall we join the Confederation and be free, prosperous, wealthy? It is for you, Gentlemen, to supply the answer to-night by your vote upon the resolution which I have the honor of moving.

SPEECH IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, ON
9TH MARCH, 1870, ON THE MOTION OF
ATTORNEY-GENERAL CREASE TO GO INTO
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO TAKE INTO
CONSIDERATION THE TERMS PROPOSED
FOR THE CONFEDERATION OF THE COL-
ONY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA WITH THE
DOMINION OF CANADA IN HIS EXCEL-
LENCY'S MESSAGE TO THE COUNCIL:

The Hon. Mr. BARNARD said:—Sir, in rising to support the motion of the Hon. and learned Attorney General, I can but express my feelings of pleasure in being permitted to take a part in the great work in hand—that of hewing off the rough corners of block which has come to us from the hands of the Executive, and which, after receiving the finishing touch at the hands of the people, will become the keystone of the great Confederation arch which will, ere twelve months, extend from ocean to ocean. The terms as sent down by His Excellency are, I consider, a fair subject of congratulation. The manner in which they have been received by this House and the people is another subject of congratulation; and the paucity and utter idleness of the arguments used by the opposition, represented in this