

blood of vigorous growing life. One who will return our kindest greeting and never forget the command that a man shall not marry his sister, not do her violence.

**Mr. Young** went on to refer to the statement of the Minister of Public Works, that the \$15,000,000 for the Intercolonial Railway would be used to strengthen the position of the Ministry, and to the strong bids for support made by the Premier of Ontario at Hamilton, and elsewhere. Mr. Young referred also to the cry of disloyalty which had been raised against the opposition in order to influence the elections, and expressed his astonishment—nay, disgust, that the individual who harped most upon this cry, was no other than the gentleman who only a few short years ago, was daily attacked by Conservative members, and by the whole Conservative press for his Washington proclivities. By such means as these that Government had carried the elections in Ontario; but he believed the detailed returns of the elections would show that, though Ministers had got a majority of the representatives, the gentlemen on his side represented a majority still of the people of the Province. Referring to the promise of a measure relating to the currency, Mr. Young brought under review the results of the Banking Act of last session. They had been asked by gentlemen opposite to point out how that Act had operated injuriously with reference to the Commercial Bank. He would endeavour to show one way in which it had done so. Formerly, the balances between different Banks had been adjusted at certain central points. At those points alone it was necessary to keep specie for that purpose; but when the Bank of Montreal obtained the power given them by that Act, they introduced a change, and made it necessary for the other Banks to settle their balances at all the species through the country. The consequence was that the Commercial Bank had to send large amounts of specie to its different offices to meet these balances, creating a weakness which, he believed, had much to do with the overthrow of that institution. Mr. Young then urged the importance of the economical administration of public affairs in working out our new constitution, and wound up with a glowing picture of the future destiny of this Confederation, if its course was directed by wise counsels and a patriotic policy.

**Mr. Fortier** spoke on the importance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, of improvements, to attract western and colonial commerce, and

of the protection to be given to the fisheries. Answering Mr. Howe, Mr. Fortier said that Nova Canadian fishermen never went to Nova Scotia waters, and there were more Nova Scotian than Canadian fishermen in Canada waters, and consequently Nova Scotia did not lose her fisheries by Confederation.

**Mr. Harrison** said—Mr. Speaker, in rising to address this House, I must claim the indulgence usually granted to new members. When the debate on the Address was commenced I had no intention whatever of addressing the House, but seeing the favour with which the remarks of new members have been received, I feel encouraged to make some remarks. The assembly now before me is the most important that I have ever addressed. I see before me the first talent of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, assembled from all parts of our great Dominion. We are here not as Nova Scotians, New Brunswickers, but as representatives of the whole Dominion of Canada, and as such must rise to the importance of the character we bear. This assembly is the most important ever held in any part of British America. In its hands it holds the destinies of half a continent. I observe on the opposite side of the House a desire at once to draw strict party lines on the floor of the House. I am not here to undervalue the worth of party. But Reform, as a principle, is not the exclusive property of Reformers, any more than conservatism is the exclusive property of Conservatives. (Hear, hear.) History proves that at times Reformers have been more Conservative than Conservatives, and Conservatives more Reform than Reformers. We have now an instance in Nova Scotia. It is asserted by the honourable member for Cumberland, and has not been denied, that the Union Party, or party of progress, in that Province, are the Conservatives, led by himself, and the opposing or non-progressive party, the so-called Liberals, led by the member for Hants. (Hear, hear.) The formation of parties in this House must depend upon measures and not upon personal predilections. For the present we have placed the interests of our common country above the claims of party. The Act of Confederation was gained by the united exertions of Conservatives and Reformers, but all must feel that the Union is not perfected until we have uniformity of the laws regulating trade, navigation, customs, excise, postage and Militia defence. When the Government was formed it appeared to me entitled to a fair trial before condemnation, because composed of the best men of all political parties in all the Prov-