

proportionately as large as in some of the other Provinces. I am not finding any fault with the expenditure in other Provinces. I think it is perfectly right that they should have this postal service, but what I object to is hearing gentlemen say that the Dominion spend so much more in Prince Edward Island for postal service, which, on investigation, I find is not correct. I have stated that we were compelled for want of proper accommodation in the fall of the year to ship our produce at very inconvenient seasons. Speaking of the fall traffic, an article in a local papers says:

"In former days almost all our shipments of produce were made late in the fall or early in the spring; now we are shipping continually by steamers so long as navigation is open. Consequently, though the volume of our shipments is much larger than it was, the fall rush is usually (and naturally) not so great as it used to be.

"But the freight traffic of this fall is already taxing to the utmost the capacities of our steamers and sailing craft. The steamer at Summerside cannot take away the freight as fast as it offers, and quantities are every morning left on the wharf."

I only read this to show to hon. gentleman the difficulty in which we are placed with regard to our fall shipments. The reason why I suggest in my memorandum that the Government should adopt any other plan to carry out the terms of confederation is, that I am looked upon by some gentlemen as perhaps being rather a crank on this subway question; but if they derive any pleasure from thinking so, there are other cranks on this question as well as myself. We have had, this year, a Bill presented to Parliament for another way of getting to and from Prince Edward Island, by carrying cars over on steam barges. Another man from Halifax, named Way, has another means of getting over, and if the Government have still some other way to offer, it is well to let us know it. At any rate, there is a great deal of dissatisfaction existing amongst the people of our Province, and I may say that I speak here for the people of Prince Edward Island. I have held meetings all over Prince Edward Island, and if the resolutions passed at those meetings can be accepted as the views of the people, no one can come to any other conclusion than that they are a unit on this question. They do not look for impossibilities. All that they ask is the terms of Confederation—or some energetic plan to settle this grievance. If it was asked for

by any one portion of the people it might not be so important, but it may be as well for me to inform the House that in the Legislature of the Island at present the Upper Branch is Liberal by a large majority, while the Lower House has a majority of Conservatives, and from these two branches, as, no doubt, the hon. gentleman who comes from one of them will be able to tell you, a unanimous memorial was forwarded to the Throne on this subject. That must show that the people of Prince Edward Island are entirely dissatisfied with the present arrangement. There is a certain class of our people who have confidence that the Government will take up the terms of union faithfully and carry them out; another class have joined the Opposition, and we have these two parties thrown into hostile camps almost evenly balanced. But supposing a strong Government secured office there, strong in the confidence of the people, all these memorials having gone before, what course do you think would likely be pursued? I have not the most remote doubt in my mind that a great deal of dissatisfaction would be expressed throughout the country, and no Government, I take it, wants to have dissatisfaction in the country; on the contrary, they are more desirous that peace, contentment and happiness should reign throughout the Dominion. Therefore, the sooner this scheme is investigated the better, and if it is found to be feasible and practicable we have a right to call upon the Government to carry it out. The people of Prince Edward Island are not a people who will readily give up what they consider are their rights, nor will they allow themselves to be bamboozled very long. The time will come when they cannot be satisfied with promises. I do not think the Government desire to bamboozle Prince Edward Island, but I cannot understand why some better arrangement has not been made for a steamboat service in the summer time—at any rate, a better service than we now have. I have not the least hesitation in saying that a better arrangement can be made, that it is time it was made, and that the people of Prince Edward Island expect that it shall be made. In the interest of Canada and of the people of Prince Edward Island this question ought to receive a solution in some way, so that hereafter we shall not be troubling this House year after year asking for redress.