

CONFEDERATION.

Quebec City, 1867.

Miss Canada,—In 1841 the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada were united and given responsible government. The House of Assembly was to consist of eighty-four members, forty-two from each of the original provinces. Soon a demand was made for representation by population. There was much dissatisfaction and a continual change of governments until finally all parties united under Brown and MacDonald, and Confederation was effected 1867.

*(The Governor, Lord Monk, seated. Enter John A. MacDonald
George Brown.)*

Lord Monk:

Your counsel, friends, is welcome here,
For some great change is drawing near.
No stable government can stand
In this poor faction-riven land.
Creed, language, class, old feuds and race.
Increase the task we now must face.
And then besides this local jar
Our nearest neighbor threatens war.
The "Trent Affair." St. Alban's raid,
The South's Lake Erie escapade,
Our fishing rights, the boundary line
Which none, so far, could ere define,
Our trading treaty's threatened close,
The North's success o'er Southern foes,
Are points to view with tact and care
While war-like rumors fill the air.

John A. MacDonald:

Your lordship's speech has clearly shown
What long ere this we should have known:—
That Annexation now awaits
These small, detached, young British states,
Unless they join and firmly stand
As one confederated band.