

to keep them in authority. The 13th May Lord Monck dismissed parliament and a shift of the ministry left J. S. McDonald and A. A. Dorian as leaders. The ministry abandoned the project of the Intercolonial Railway, of the rule by double majority in both provinces, and the excessive tariff on the necessities of life.

The first session of the Eighth Parliament began Aug. 13, 1863.

The ministry, however, still continued to play with the manufacturing overtures. Mr. Holton exposed the state of the finances and proved the necessity of fixing a tariff to meet the deficit. The ministry was careful to state that the future policy would be one of free trade, after the present difficulties were provided for. A treaty of reciprocity was being urged with the United States, and at the same time it was shown to the ministry by Mr. Cartier that the imposition of tonnage duties on vessels sailing through the canals would not lead to the desired end, if the United States were to be won over to favor the treaty.

So much opposition did the radical measures of this ministry raise that it, too, was driven from power. On March 30, 1864, Sir E. P. Tache and J. A. Macdonald replaced them. One of their earliest efforts was to try and renew the treaty of reciprocity. They urged the Maritime Provinces to establish a commercial union with Canada.

Their government, therefore, presented at the first occasion a measure introducing the federal principle and inviting the other provinces to enter into a confederation.

Sept. 1, 1864, the political leaders of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island met at Charlottetown to discuss a federal union of their provinces. A union of the two Canadas with them was favorably considered. Another conference was appointed at Quebec.

Oct. 10, 1864, delegates from the Maritime Provinces met those of Canada at Quebec, with the approval of the Crown, and at the invitation of the Governor-General. For thirteen days the articles of a constitution were debated. It was argued that the Crown should be at the head, but whether a personal sovereign or a represented sovereignty was for some time uncertain. It was even thought, at one time, that the new government might be called the "Kingdom of Canada," with a branch of the Royal family in direct succession on the throne, but it was finally decided that the words

"Dominion of Canada" would serve better, and that the Crown should be represented by a Governor-General sent over periodically from England.

Jan. 19, 1865, Lord Monck called together the legislature to consider the matter of confederation. The ministry undertook, on this occasion, to suggest a project to repress depredations, committed in violation of the peace, along the frontier of Canada.

During the summer a company of 23 officers and soldiers from the Southern Confederacy invaded the United States from the Canadian border to make reprisals for the severe acts committed by the Yankee generals, Sheridan and Sherman, on the people of Virginia, Georgia and the Carolinas. Acting on complaint of the United States, some of the Confederates, who had taken refuge in Canada, were arrested, but were set at liberty again by the mandate of Judge Coursol. These Southerners, although but a handful, met quietly in St. Johns, P. Q., under Bennett Young, and from thence proceeded in twos and threes through Missisquoi County to the Vermont frontier, and on a quiet Sunday morning dashed into St. Albans on horseback and held the surprised and unarmed citizens at bay for an hour or two. They compelled the local banks to deliver over what money they had and then they dashed back across the lines again. To appease the anger of the United States, after the release of the raiders, Canada refunded the amount taken from the banks.

The apparent sympathy of England and Canada for the cause of the South excited the animosity of the United States government. This feeling contributed much to the abolition of the commercial treaty between Canada and the States.

Since the treaty of reciprocity had been in operation, commerce had almost tripled along the line. In 1854 it was \$24,000,000, but in 1864 it amounted to \$69,150,000. In 1865, the United States Senate authorized the President to give twelve months notice for the abrogation of this treaty.

The Canadian ministry attempted to renew their treaty for the advantage of commerce. The Imperial Government sent Sir Maurice Bruce to act in concert with the Canadians to this end with the United States. They were obliged to abandon the undertaking because the United States put impossibilities in the way of negotiation.

The action of the United States Gov-