

in that country as ever existed in the slave States of the South or the plantations of the West Indies; for the unfortunate people of that country were under as complete thralldom to the Company as negro slaves ever were to their masters. What progress were the Indians making under the rule of the Company? There was not a man of these Indians could get a grant of land, a pound of lead or powder, but from this Company. Their very existence depended upon the Company. The consequence was, they had grown rich and fat by possession of the monopoly of the consumption of a large class of Her Majesty's subjects. It was time that the monopoly ceased; but this company had been wise in its generation, and their influence in England is greater than the whole five Provinces put together. Honourable gentlemen had referred to the conduct of Mrs. Lincoln in the neighbouring Republic, in justification of the Governor-General's large salary. It was necessary they said to prevent the possibility of such scandalous proceedings by giving the Governor a large salary. He would ask them to look at the long list of Presidents, from Washington down, noble men, and say whether any man was ever heard to breathe the breath of slander against these men, or charge them with pecuniary speculation. But what have we seen in Canada? We find a certain Governor-General advancing and subscribing to certain doctrines in reference to the Hudson Bay Company, then returning to England and accepting a position in that company at two or three thousand a year, and denying and denouncing the very doctrines which he as Governor-General had proclaimed. He gave this instance to show that the highest salary in the world would not make a man faithful to his duty nor endow him with integrity or uprightness if God Almighty had not endowed him with these qualities. Look at the diplomacy of England. No man was fonder of England than he. He drew his blood from her stock, replenished his mind with her history; his associations had lived in her atmosphere; he loved the soil upon which the old monuments of industry of his forefathers rested, but he now looked in vain upon that country for a man with the qualities of a statesman such as Chatham had, who would be able to bind this great country together and make it what it ought to be. They had not such a man, and we were asked to go stumbling, blundering on at haphazard to cover up the blunders of English statesmen. No one could look at the stupid diplomacy in relation to

the Maine boundary without feeling disgust at the result. There was a general impression in England among the higher and educated, and he was sorry to say even among the literary classes, that a good deal of North America—to use words he had heard a noble lord answer to a question of the poet Rogers—was not of more value than a black beetle. He held that England had as deep an interest in the safety of this Province, as we had in England's safety. Few people in England would agree with that opinion. A Scotchman in Edinburgh, being in the garret on the tenth storey, with but one window, could not be made to believe that the Premier of Ontario, or the Premier of the Dominion, was as good a Scotchman as himself. Talk to him as much as you please of Hon. Macdonalds and Hon. Macnabs; they were, in his opinion, only colonists. The same feeling exists in England. They forget that our ancestors helped to make their country what it is—that they fought the old battles and cultivated the old soil. He believed in his heart that when England lost her North American possessions she would lose the finest nursery for her seamen she has, except her own coast. (Hear, hear). It was almost worth war to preserve her territorial rights on this continent, if only for their fishing grounds. There were now only sixty thousand fishermen in these Provinces, and yet to preserve this territorial right, England would not fire a shot. What was the present state of that fishing question? If a Nova Scotia fisherman imports a thousand barrels of fish into the States, he pays \$2,000 duty, while an American fisherman by paying a paltry license—which half the time he did not pay at all—comes to our coasts, catches our fish, and makes \$2,000 more on a thousand barrels of fish than Nova Scotians could. This made trade with New England in fish so far as Nova Scotia was concerned comparatively valueless. The time had come for speaking out on all these questions. If we are to take upon ourselves national obligations and national liabilities we should be treated like a nation. He next referred to the annexation of Russian America to the States, and complained that no remonstrance had been made by England. He could not help thinking that Britain had lost her chance. She spent large sums to preserve the balance of power in Europe. When America was convulsed with civil war, the Emperor of the French wanted England to strike in and divide that country into two parts, but England refused and lost her chance. With that coun-