

submitted to the various provincial Legislatures for their approval. But knowledge of the principal terms leaked out, and the people were soon eagerly discussing it. In 1865 the Canadian Parliament approved of the scheme by a vote of ninety-one to thirty-three on a motion asking for an Imperial measure of confederation. But strong opposition developed in the eastern provinces—Prince Edward Island rejected the scheme; Newfoundland refused even to discuss it; an election in New Brunswick returned a hostile majority, and Tilley had to carry on a vigorous educational campaign in order to reverse the result in another election in 1866. In Nova Scotia Howe contended that an election should be held before the province was finally committed, but the union was approved by an Assembly that, as the next election showed, did not truly represent the opinion of the province on the question. Nova Scotia was thus practically forced into Confederation. Howe made strenuous efforts to free his province from the union. In this he was successfully opposed by Tupper, and though the province afterwards received "better terms", and Howe joined the Dominion government, the original compulsion long left a feeling of bitterness behind it.

It is worthy of note that about this time a Bill was introduced into the United States Congress and was passed through two readings, providing for the admission of British North America into the American Union as four separate states, with the assumption of its public debt by the general government. It failed in its object for the simple rea-