

little was accomplished. The former political platform was a condemnation of annexation was the chief contribution of the convention. No substantial progress was made with the question of union. The delegates had nothing definite before them; they even attempt to formulate a plan of union or to prepare instructions for their representatives to the Halifax conference. They left the subject in the same nebulous state in which they found it. The sessions and discussions covered much the same ground as at the previous convention. The debates bear witness to the fact that there was no growth of democratic sentiment among the members, but otherwise a consensus of opinion was practically unchanged. The convention was not a constructive body; it was merely a miscellaneous assembly of mediocre, censorious men. A signal lack of leadership was displayed throughout the proceedings. The convention was engaged in fighting out its own internal differences rather than in finding a remedy for the evils of the country. The delegates must have returned home with a sense of keen disappointment. They had not succeeded in settling their domestic troubles and had even failed to formulate a constructive policy for the rehabilitation of the party and the salvation of the country.

Immediately after the close of the convention, Mr. T. Wilson of Quebec, addressed an open letter to John Redpath, President of the Montreal Annexation Association, in which he appealed to that gentleman to drop the agitation for annexation until the policy of the League had had a fair trial. "All are agreed that we cannot remain as we are and many that annexation may be necessary, but only as a last resort. But the appeal only called forth a sarcastic reply as "to the futility of the various nostrums" which were occupying the attention of the League. At a subsequent meeting of the Montreal association, the question of the relation of the League to the annexationists was brought up by President Moffatt. "He deemed the expression of an opinion on the annexation movement premature at present but thought that the annexationists might have continued to act with them." He hoped that the League was far distant when the colonists would seriously think of annexation but if the unfavorable policy of England should force them to do so, they would consider the question entirely as a Canadian issue. But before reaching any final decision, they ought first to ascertain what Great Britain could and would do for the colonies.

The ensuing discussion showed that there was some difference of opinion among the members as to the proper attitude of the League toward the annexationists, but almost all the speakers expressed themselves as strongly opposed to annexation. The election of officers resulted in the selection of a pronounced pro-British executive, the former annexation officers being quietly dropped. By this decisive action the Montreal Association finally freed itself from the suspicion of annexationist proclivities. Several of the local branches of the League in Upper Canada likewise took occasion to express "their most decided disapproval of all attempts being made to sever these British American provinces