

2. THE CONFEDERATION MOVEMENT.

The Charlottetown Conference of 1864 was originally called by the Maritime Provinces to discuss a Maritime union. To this Conference came delegates from Canada, urging consideration of the larger project of a confederation of all the British North American provinces. This Conference adjourned in September to re-assemble in Quebec in October for the purpose of considering a scheme drawn up in the meantime by the Canadian Government. These proposals were embodied in the Quebec resolutions and became the basis of the B.N.A. Act.

3. INDUCEMENTS TO MARITIMES.

The Maritime Provinces were reluctant to enter the proposed union and various inducements were held out to them. There being no records of the Charlottetown and Quebec Conferences the intentions of the delegates and the inducements held out by Canadian statesmen to the Maritime Provinces must be gathered from addresses made by them subsequent to the Charlottetown Conference at various public meetings and banquets. The chief inducements thus made by Cartier, John A. Macdonald, George Brown and Galt were:

- (a) That the Maritime Provinces would be absorbed by commerce and a tremendous interprovincial market created for them.
- (b) Great benefits would accrue from the building of the Intercolonial Railway.
- (c) The harbours of Halifax and St. John would benefit greatly.