from 1857 to 1867, and later from 1872 to 1873; in 1859 he became Minister without portfolio, and from 1863 to 1865 Colonial Secretary of the Colony; and Premier from 1865 to 1867. He was a pronounced anticonfederationist, when he attended as a delegate the Quebec Conference on September 15, 1865, and later when he went to the London meeting held at the Westminster Palace Hotel in December, 1866; but at that meeting he was won over, and was preparing to persuade his followers in the Prince Edward Island Legislature upon his return, when a general election took place and his government was defeated on other issues. Consequently Prince Edward Island was a late-comer in joining the Confederation. He again became Premier from 1870 to 1872, and also for a few months in 1873. He was then elected to the new Federal House of Commons in 1873, and, after a period of defeat in 1874 and in the Provincial Assembly from 1875 to 1876, was re-elected to the House of Commons where he sat from 1876 to 1882. During most of that latter period, he was Minister of Marine and Fisheries in the Macdonald Government, although, owing to ill-health, he ceased to administer