THE EXAMINER:

A Weekly Journal of Politics, Literature, and News.

"This is true Liberty, when Freeborn Men, having to advise the Public, may speak free."---Euripides.

Vol. XV. Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Monday, May 22, 1865. New Series.---No. 25.

Valuable Property
IN
Charlottetown for Sale!

TO be Sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on TUESDAY, the Thirtieth (30th) day of MAY next, 1865, at the hour of 12 o'clock, noon, at the COLONIAL BUILDING, in Charlottetown, pursuant to a License duly granted for that purpose by his Honor the Surrogate and Judge of Probate of this Island, bearing date the 26th day of January last, 1865:—ALL the Right, Title and Interest of WILLIAM SMARDON, late of CHARLOTTETOWN, in Queen's County, in Prince Edward Island, deceased, in and to All that part of TOWN LOT No. 35, in the third hundred of Town Lots in Charlottetown, bounded as follows, that is to say:—Commencing at the south-east angle of said Town Lot, on the North-west edge of Grafton Street; thence by a right angle line therewith north-westwardly, for the distance of one hundred and twenty-eight feet, eight inches; thence by a right angle therewith south-westwardly for the distance of eighty-five feet, or until it meets the north-east edge of Great George Street; thence following the course of said Street south-eastwardly for the distance of fifty-three feet; thence by a right angle therewith north-eastwardly twenty-two feet, eleven inches; thence by a right angle line therewith north-westwardly seventeen feet and seven inches; thence by a right angle line therewith north-eastwardly for the distance of five feet; thence by a right angle line therewith north-westwardly five feet; thence by a right angle line therewith north-eastwardly fifteen feet, nine inches, to the north-east angle of a right of way; thence following the course thereof south-eastwardly for the distance of seventeen feet; thence by a right angle therewith north-eastwardly for the distance of twenty-seven feet and six inches; thence by a right angle line therewith south-eastwardly three feet, five inches; thence by a right angle line therewith south westwardly twenty-seven feet and six inches; thence by a right angle line therewith south-eastwardly thirty-eight feet, to said north-west edge of Grafton Street; thence following the course of the same north-eastwardly forty-one feet four inches to the place of commencement.

ALSO all the Right, Title, and Interest of the said late William Smardon, deceased, in and to all that other part or portion of said TOWN LOT No. 35, in the said Third hundred of Town Lots in Charlottetown, thus described, that is to say:—Commencing at the south-west angle of the said Town Lot, on the north-west edge of said Grafton Street; thence following the course of the north-east edge of Great George Street north-westwardly, for the distance of eighteen feet six inches; thence by a right angle line therewith north-eastwardly thirty-five feet six inches, or until it meets the south-west edge of the right of way; thence following the course thereof south-eastwardly eighteen feet six inches to said Grafton Street; thence following the course of the same south-westwardly thirty-five feet six inches to the place of commencement.

ALSO all the Right, Title and Interest of the said late William Smardon, deceased, in and to a Right of Way, eight feet in breadth, and in length thirty-eight feet, or thereabouts, leading from Grafton Street, northward, through Town Lot No. 35, aforesaid; and all other rights of the said William Smardon, in, to, or in respect of, or in connection with said Town Lot No 35.

ALSO all that PEW in SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH, CHARLOTTETOWN, being Pew No. fifty-seven, in the aisle or body thereof.

For further particulars and terms of Sale, apply to either of the Subscribers, Executors of the last Will of the said late William Smardon.

THOMAS DAWSON, }
JOSEPH HENSLEY, } Executors.

Ch'town, 8th April, 1865.

☞ The above Land and Premises comprehend the valuable places of business on Great George and Grafton Streets, occupied by Messrs. George Millner, Joseph Knight, Stanford Wells, M. Stevenson, McRae, and the Brighton Depot, and the Saddlery Store of the late William Smardon.

OPENING OF THE NAVIGATION.

1865! 1865!

B. C. S.

JOHN BELL,
Merchant Tailor,

WOULD CALL ATTENTION to his STOCK OF
CLOTHS,
DOESKINS,
TWEEDS,
CASSIMERES,
SILK,
VELVET,
MARSELLES, and other
VESTINGS,
AND
TAILORS' TRIMMINGS,

which he is prepared to make up to order, at the shortest notice.

J. B. trusts that by strict attention to business, combined with a thorough knowledge of the trade and a long acquaintance with the requirements of those who so liberally patronized his predecessor, will ensure for him a good share of their commands.

THE
Ready-Made Clothing
DEPARTMENT

Is well supplied with new and fashionable garments, of his own manufacture, which for quality, style and price, shall not fail to give every buyer the greatest satisfaction, as the motto will not be

"CHEAP" ONLY, BUT
"CHEAP AND GOOD,"
ALSO,
HATS AND CAPS,
SHIRTS,
COLLARS,
SCARFS,
TIES,
POCKET HANDKERCHIEFS
And GLOVES.
UNDER-CLOTHING,
2500 pairs Island Manufactured SOCKS.
ISLAND HOMESPUN in variety.

Working Men, (and who does not work), are invited to call and investigate the above at

BELL'S CLOTHING STORE,
QUEEN STREET.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., April 10, 1865.

It is a well known fact

THAT the BOOTS, SHOES, &c. made at the Prince Edward Island BOOT & SHOE FACTORY, are better and cheaper than can be imported.

THAT Wholesale Dealers can buy their Boots, Shoes, &c, on **better terms** and at **lower prices** than they can import them.

THAT Wholesale Buyers can order small or large lots upon the same terms, and can receive them in any part of P. E. Island within **three days** from the time their order is received.

THAT Dealers in Boots, Shoes, &c, can present a surplus stock remaining on hand by buying at the above establishment.

THAT Wholesale Buyers can have made to order any description of Boots, Shoes, &c, required, at short notice.

THAT all who have bought Boots, Shoes, &c, are decidedly of opinion that it is to their advantage to patronize the **Prince Edward Island Boot and Shoe Factory.**

THAT the Merchants and others who have bought at the above establishment can with confidence recommend them to their customers.

☞ Orders respectfully solicited and punctually attended to.

GEO. NICOLL.

March 20, 1865. isl rw p h m 6 in

Ex 'HELEN DAVIES.'

IN STORE,

40 Puns. strong DEMERARA RUM, (38 over proof.)
40 barrels SUGAR.

J. & T. MORRIS.

May 8, 1865. 2in

TO CARRIAGE MAKERS!

IRON,
STEEL,
AXLES,
BOLTS & NUTS.

to be had very cheap for Cash at

W. E. DAWSON'S.

December 5, 1864.

FLOUR,
In Store.

300 BBLS. "EXTRA STATE" FLOUR,

Just Arrived,

Per Schr. *Cecilia* from BOSTON.

150 Bbls. "Government Mills."

Daily Expected,

Per Schr. "KIT CARSON," from BOSTON,

500 Bbls. "EXTRA STATE,"

(Choice brands.)

For sale by

J. ROBERTS ECKART,

Peake's Brick Building, Water-st.

Ch'town, April 24, 1865.

FIRST ARRIVAL OF
NEW GOODS,
For Spring 1865,
At the British Warehouse.

JUST RECEIVED, per Steamer Commerce, from BRITAIN, via Halifax,

2 Cases Dry Goods.

containing

New Styles in STRAW GOODS,
Rich Fancy RIBBONS, and a
Variety of DRESS GOODS.

☞ Balance of Stock per 'Undine' and 'L. C. Owen.'

W. & A. BROWN.

May 1, 1865.

Boston and Colonial S. S. Line.

THE Proprietors of the LINE have chartered the fine Steamer 'CITY OF BATH' to take the place of the "Greyhound," on the route between Boston, Halifax and Charlottetown. The 'CITY OF BATH' will leave CHARLOTTETOWN for BOSTON on MONDAY or TUESDAY next. For freight or Passage apply to

I. C. HALL, Agent.

Ch'town, May 8, 1865. all p (other adv out.)

Best Island Tobacco!!

THE subscribers, in returning thanks to their friends and customers for the patronage extended to them since their commencement in business, would intimate that they have

GREATLY REDUCED
The Price of their Tobacco,

which is pronounced by judges to be the

Best Manufactured on the Island.

Samples can be had by calling at their Store in Queen-street, next door to the Bank of P. E. Island

LOWDEN & RICHARDSON.

Charlottetown, April 3, 1865. 1sl tf

Fresh Garden & Field Seeds

AT APOTHECARIES' HALL.

JUST ARRIVED per Barque "Undine" from LIVERPOOL, and steamer "Commerce" from BOSTON, a choice lot of

Really Fresh
GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS,
in every variety.

T. DESBRISAY.

May 8, 1865.

Fishing Tackle.

BY Barque *Undine* I have RECEIVED FISHING RODS, CASTING LINES, FLIES, REELS, Landing Nets, Limerick Hooks, &c., &c., offered very low.

T. DESBRISAY.

May 8, 1865.

Further Particulars Respecting loss of Ship 'David Cannon.'

OWING to the heavy loss sustained by the accident to the above Ship, the Subscribers notify their customers, (whose accounts became due on or before the 31st December last), that all balances remaining unpaid on the 30th MAY next, will, without respect to persons, be handed over to their Attorney for collection. All Notes of Hand now due MUST BE PAID AT ONCE.

W. W. LORD & CO.

April 17, 1865. 1m

MOLASSES!

FOR SALE by the Subscribers — 33 Puncheons Retailing MOLASSES.

G. & S. DAVIES.

January 2, 1865.

EARTHENWARE!

FOR SALE by the Subscribers — 10 CRATES of the above.

G. & S. DAVIES.

January 2, 1865.

Furniture Warerooms,

Corner Kent Street & King Square.

IF you wish to buy FURNITURE, CALL AT

DOUGLASS'S WAREROOMS.

He has the largest and best ASSORTMENT of

Ready-made Furniture,

of the latest and most fashionable STYLES, to select from in the Island, at

EXTREMELY LOW PRICES,

consisting of:—

Drawing-Room, Dining and Chamber Furniture. Also, Side Boards, Book Cases, Wardrobes and What-Note, Centre Tables, Extension do, Hall and Toilet do, Bureaus, Bedsteads, Cribs, Cots and Cradles, Feather Beds, Hair, Excelsior and Straw Mattrasses, Cane and Wood Chairs, Office Chairs and Cushins, Cornices, Poles, Rollers, Shades and Tassels. A large assortment of

Sofas and Lounges.

ONE PIANO.

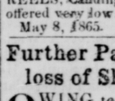
☞ Please call and examine.

Corner Kent Street and King Square.

GEORGE DOUGLASS.

Charlottetown, Feb 20, 1866. tf

Schooner for Sale.



THE subscriber offers for sale the Schooner "STAR OF THE SEA," 58 tons register—built at Bathurst, N. B, (of Hackmatack) in 1862—is very substantially built and well found.

J. S. CARVELL.

Ch'town, P. E. I., April 10, 1865.

Labrador Herring for Sale.

122 BBLS. No. 1 HERRING,
13 Half Bbls. do do
40 Bbls. No. 2, do do

JOHN S. PURDIE.

Charlottetown, Jan. 30, 1865. tf

YARMOUTH
Improved Stoves.

THE Subscriber has this week received from the Manufactory, a full and complete cargo of those celebrated

Cook, Box & Franklin Stoves,

Ex Schooner Blue Wave. Those Stoves cannot be beat for DURABILITY, NEATNESS and ECONOMY, and are the only Stoves imported here that give general satisfaction, and now offered for sale, LOW FOR CASH, Merchantable Produce, or twelve months' credit on approved notes.

A good assortment of Fall and Winter Goods.

R. J. CLARK.

Orwell Cheap Store, Nov. 21, 1864. tf

CODFISH.

50 QUINTALS CODFISH, for sale by the subscriber.

J. S. CARVELL.

Ch'town, March 20, 1865. tf

SEED WHEAT.

A SMALL QUANTITY of SUPERIOR SEED WHEAT, can be had by making early application to

N. RANKIN,

April 17, 1865. Queen-street.

COLONIAL LEGISLATURE.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SATURDAY, April 1.

A Bill to authorize the appointment of Clerks to Justices of the Peace, was re-committed and reported agreed to.

A Bill to amend the Act for regulating the inspection of pickled fish, and a Bill to amend the law for the better advancement of justice, were read the third time and passed.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon. Sol. General, with a Bill for appropriating certain monies therein mentioned for the service of the year 1865. Also, a Bill in further amendment of the Act to incorporate the Royal Agricultural Society.

MILITIA LAW.

(*Committee resumed.*)

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: I do not see anything objectionable in the Act which this Bill repeals. It allows the militia to be called out in case of invasion or civil commotion. It also reduces the salary of the Adjutant General from £75 to £25.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: If the Adjutant General has to travel through the country and inspect the militia, it cannot be expected that he would do it for £25. £75 would be little enough. The law at present in force only allows the militia to be called out in extreme cases, and it is thought that they should be called out for the purpose of being drilled. Therefore, it is necessary to repeal the Act.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: That Act stands in the way, and, in fact, it is a total prohibition, for it expressly says that the militia shall not be called out except in cases of extraordinary emergency. It has been seriously called to our notice by the Colonial Minister as being without a parallel in any part of the British dominions, and discreditable to the Colony. Great commotions are probably approaching, and events arising which it behoves us to meet as British subjects. We are invited, and not only invited, but almost forced, into a Confederation of the North American Colonies for the purpose of self-defence; and we know this Colony has spoken out sufficiently well to convince us that ninety-nine out of every hundred of the inhabitants are opposed to Confederation as proposed. It therefore follows that we must now take up the question of self-defence and deal with it in such a reasonable way as will convince the British Government that, while we are opposed to Confederation on good grounds, we are not unwilling to take upon ourselves our fair share of the defence of the Colony; and it is the first step we should take to wipe away the reproach of the present law from our Statute Book, so that our people may be trained and put upon a footing with those of the other British Colonies. I know it is an unpopular subject, but the people must be made sensible that they must bear their share of self-defence. It was with surprise that I heard the objection to the Bill made by his honor on my right (Mr. McDonald.) I would have given him credit for more patriotism. But I believe he is one of the very few advocates of Confederation in the Legislature, and who have their part to play. I dare say it is a piece of policy to allow the Militia Laws to remain as they are, so that the advocates of Union would have a strong reason to say, "the Island is unwilling to contribute its share for self-defence, and therefore we must go into the Union." I do not wish to impose burdens on the people in this respect more than any other person, but if they consult their own interest, they will approve of placing the Militia Laws in such a state as to enable them to have such training that they would be prepared for the worst. Events do not bear a very pacific aspect in Great Britain at present. There is some anxiety in the minds of leading statesmen relative to America. Canada is exceedingly anxious, and we cannot look to a better barometer than the sentiments of statesmen there, and we see that they are making great efforts to put their Colony in a state of defence. They are not going to wait till they hear that the enemy is about to invade their territory, and then call the Legislature together to pass a law and have their people drilled in two or three weeks. Such an idea is absurd. I, therefore, think it is our wisest policy to do something to put the people in a state of training, and in a position of self defence, which cannot be done as long as the present law remains on our Statute Book. I am only sorry that the other branch of the Legislature has not made a more liberal provision for this service. Another reason why we should repeal that law is, that we are threatened with the withdrawal of the salary of the Lieutenant Governor, and it will be another argument to hasten that burden upon our shoulders if we neglect the Militia laws. The British Government will say, "You refuse to make any provision for self-defence, and you will therefore have to pay the salary of your own Governor." I, therefore, hope your honors will be induced to accede to the repeal of the present law—that you will go, at least, as far as the lower branch of the Legislature has gone, which I do not consider too far, neither will it be so considered by the British Government. And I do hope that if things look as unpropitious at another session, the matter will be taken up and the laws rendered something more in fact than they are in name. In Nova Scotia they have been training the Militia for the last twelve months; and I have no doubt but there will be improvements made in their Militia Laws during the present session. I, therefore, hope that our Militia Laws will not be a reproach to us any longer, as they have been for some time past.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: His honor the Attorney General has given us a good description of the Militia Law, but I cannot go so far as to condemn the law known as "Mooney's Law," for it has saved the country £50 a year in the salary of the Adjutant General alone, and your honors know that if that officer had a salary of £75 a year, he would have to show that he done something for it. He would probably call out the Militia to drill two or three days in the year, and if a man with a family of sons were called away from his farm, I consider that it would be a loss of twenty shillings a day to him. So if we calculate the saving that it has been to the country, I do not think "Mooney's Law" should be despised. I think it has worked well up to the present time, and if it is necessary now to show our loyalty, or if danger is apprehended, I have no objection to repeal it; though, perhaps, the Act we are now passing will not be so acceptable to the country. But I do not intend to oppose anything to show the loyalty of the people, for I believe they are as loyal as any in the British dominions. As I have heard one of the Commissioners on the Land Question say, they must be a loyal people, or they would have shown disloyalty when they have had so much provocation.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: I think the time has arrived when the inhabitants of the Colony should do something for their own defence. We frequently hear that there is danger of war, and the Colonial Minister says there is no other Colony in the same position as this with regard to the Militia Laws. I remember when Col. Lane used to come round to inspect the Militia, that the people turned out and had a field day, as it was called; but now, though I dare say there has been something saved to the Colony, it will cost a good deal to reorganize the Militia and put them upon the same footing that they were before. The men do not know their officers, nor the officers their men. I had charge of a battalion myself, but I do not know how I would go to work to organize it. It will be a great deal of trouble and expense, and if "Mooney's law" stands in the way, the sooner it is repealed the better.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I do not see any more necessity for this bill this year than there was last. Does the Government intend to frighten us? I do not see anything to be alarmed at; and I think it would be just as well to let this bill lay over till next session. I presume the Government would have brought in a more stringent measure if they thought it would go down with the country. As we are not far from a general election, they will have to try to please the people. As far as this Bill is concerned, I was astonished when I heard it read. It revives an old act which has not been in operation, I suppose, since the first formation of a Government in the Colony.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: I do not know how we could better please the people than by putting a sound argument in their mouths against Confederation. But I do not rise as an apologist for the Government in bringing this bill in its present shape; and I own that I think it should have been brought in at an earlier period of the session. The only difficulty which I see is, that old laws which this Bill revives have been so long repealed that they are almost out of print but to have re-enacted them would have incurred a good deal of expense.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: In reference to what was said by his honor from Prince County (Mr. Lord) about pleasing the people, I would say that there is a great difference between pleasing the people and informing them on subjects of vast importance to themselves, and assuming that they will not do their duty when they are informed. I have no fear but when the people are informed of what appears to be their duty, they will do it. And while I would be the last to impose any unnecessary burdens upon the people, I would be one of the first to speak out and tell my experience when I think it is necessary to do so. I do not think they are the friends of the country who would take advantage of our Militia Laws to drive us into Confederation. That question should be considered purely on its own merits, and if it will not stand the test, let it be laid aside. Therefore I consider that we should pursue such a course with regard to our Militia laws as would tend to maintain our connection with Great Britain.

Hon. Mr. YEO: I would be very sorry to put the country to the expense if it was not called for, but I think it is called for. We should do something to put our Militia on the same footing as those of the other Colonies.

At the request of the Hon. Mr. McDonald, the old Militia law was then read.

Hon. Mr. BEER: I think that law is obsolete, and does not suit us at the present time.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: We now have the Bill before us in its true light, and I would ask your honors if such a law is suited to the country at the present time? I am surprised that the Government would bring in such a Bill which would put the people to so much unnecessary trouble. Would your honors pass such a Bill if it were not a Government measure? Perhaps the Government thought we would not take the trouble to read that old Act. It is probable that the Bill will pass, and I regret it; and I also regret that any of your honors are in such a position as to have to support such a measure. I oppose it from principle and from conscience, and I feel for any of your honors who have to support such a measure. When it is published, what will the country think of it? I would not oppose any reasonable amendment to "Mooney's Bill" to show the loyalty of the people, but I am opposed to any Government bringing a Bill in this manner to deceive the country, for the people will not know what this Act is subjecting them to. I oppose it because I believe I would be doing an injury to the country if I voted for it, not because I am not as loyal as any member of the Government.

Hon. Mr. BEER: I am sorry that this Bill will revive such an old obsolete Act—an Act which was passed in the year 1780. It is not adapted to the circumstances of the country at the present day. I cannot vote for it, there are so many things in it that would bring us into contempt.

Hon. Mr. LORD: What is the use for his honor to be playing fast and loose in that way? What is the use to talk about not supporting the Bill? He knows that it is a Government measure, and he is bound to support it.

Hon. Mr. BEER: I said I would not oppose it.

Hon. Mr. LORD: It is just what I expected; and I said, when the address in answer to His Excellency's speech was before us, that I would not be bound to support such a Militia law as the Government would bring in. And I remember that when I heard the remarks of his honor from the First District of Queen's County (Mr. Henderson), I thought we would have a very stringent measure from the Government, but they have kept clear of that. I suppose those famous reformers in the other end of this building passed this Bill without knowing what law they were reviving. Could not the Government bring in a nice Bill to please their friends? Could they not frame something to suit those fine gentlemen who are so fond of wearing cocked hats? This Bill is not suited to the country, and I will oppose it.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: If the Government had introduced a suitable measure to have the Militia properly drilled, I would support it; but we would be making ourselves ridiculous by passing such a measure as that. It revives an Act which was passed 85 years ago, and the provisions of which would make the Legislature the laughing-stock of the world. It says that each man is to have two gun-flints and a half pound of powder. There is a fine for firing a gun or beating a drum after sunset. Two guns are to be fired from Patterson's Battery—wherever that is—at a particular time of the evening. A signal fire is to be made at a particular place in Queen Street, where perhaps one of the best houses in town now stands, and which will have to be burned down. Then it exempts your honors from serving as militia men, and it also exempts all Justices of the Peace and a number of other officers; in fact, I believe it will exempt nearly every man in the Island. There would be scarcely enough left to perform the services required by the Bill. I believe those who prepared this Bill never looked at the Act, or they surely would never have thought of reviving it. I dare say it was suitable at the time it was passed, but it is not so at the present day. The Act would have to be printed in a separate form for the information of the people, for it is not in any of the bound statutes, and I do not know but it would be a profitable speculation to buy them all up and send them round on exhibition, for they would be a curiosity in any country in the world. I feel it my duty to oppose the Bill for the reasons I have stated.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I would like to see if anything could be done to relieve your honors from the disagreeable necessity of voting for this bill in its present shape, for it will cast a reflection on this House which I would not like to see. If, through the carelessness of the House of Assembly, or from any other reason, they should send a bill here which will bring us into contempt, are we to pass it merely to please the Government? Is not our honor at stake when we stand here to attend to the affairs of the country?

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: I rather think there is a misapprehension on the part of some of your honors. The object of the present bill is to take away "Mooney's law," and leave the law as it was the day before that law was passed. The whole of that old law was not in force at that time, for I find that a number of clauses in it were repealed, and they will still stand repealed. Nothing more of that old law was in force, previous to the passing of "Mooney's law," than was applicable to the time, and I have no doubt but it will be equally applicable to the present time. The clauses in the old Act which are repealed, and which have called forth such severe criticisms from your honors, are the 2nd, 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th, 15th, 20th, and 28th.

The Hon. Mr. BEER called attention to the twenty-first section of the same Act, as being also inapplicable to the circumstances of the country at the present time; and, after some desultory debate, the Hon. Attorney General moved that the bill be amended by inserting the following section, which was agreed to:—

"The twenty-first section of the herein before recited Act of the Twentieth, George the Third, Chapter One, shall be and the same is hereby repealed."

AFTERNOON.

DESPATCHES—CONFEDERATION.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Walker, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into consideration the various despatches and other documents upon the table relative to the proposed Confederation of the British North American Colonies.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: Your honors, the report, or rather the correspondence on the subject of the conference, relative to the Union of the Colonies, has been on the table for a number of days, and whether or not this great question, having undergone such a great discussion in public of late, and the merits of it having been so well ventilated and so ably discussed on both sides, that it is needless for me to say that your honors must be in possession of the whole question, and able to give a calm and deliberate opinion upon it. I do not consider it necessary to occupy much of the attention of your honors, because I think there is nothing in the present state of the question to call for anything like an elaborate address upon the subject. I can perceive, as well as every gentleman around me, what the feelings of the people are, with respect to this momentous question. It is one on which I think the great body of the people can judge for themselves, and having, in almost all parts of the Island, given an expression of opinion, we may safely say that ninety-nine in every hundred are directly opposed to the proposed union with Canada and the other Colonies on the terms of the Quebec Convention; therefore I feel it unnecessary to labour the question. Still, however, I, as one of the delegates, may be expected to say a little on the subject which does not lie in the mouths of others; but I do not think I can convey anything of interest to this House, on any point touching the merits of the question, which your honors are not already in possession of. The articles of the Report, I have no doubt, have been well studied by your honors, and your minds are quite matured upon them. I do not hesitate to say that I cannot concur in the scheme laid down in this report. The report, it may be unnecessary for me to add, has been drawn up with care and skill, and signed by the greater number of the delegates. I was one of those who signed it; but at the same time, if an explanation is necessary on that point I have it in my power to give it, and to show that, though parties signed that report, it was not with a view of acceding or consenting to all the principles it contained. It may be proper and necessary to explain why this is the case. At the deliberations of the Conference the question came up as to how the proceedings should be conducted, and what part should be published. There was a difference of opinion on this subject. Some were desirous of keeping a regular minute of the proceedings, so that every delegate should have an opportunity of offering his opinions where he differed from the majority by way of amendment to the proposition which he differed from, and thereby have a record of what his opinions were upon each question; but it was found that this would not be conducive to the ends in view, or to the accomplishment of the object of the delegation, and it was finally agreed that there should be no record kept of any proposition which was brought forward and lost. A question arose at this discussion how far the proceedings should be binding upon any individuals who should dissent from any particular proposition, and it was answered by some of the delegates that each party should feel himself bound to subscribe to what the majority had signed. Some opposed this. I was one who opposed it, and in decided language gave my dissent to such a proposition as being unprecedented in any legislative proceedings and subversive of freedom of opinion and action. I am glad to say that several other delegates having taken the same view of it, and having advanced their opinions in a more able manner, in equally decided terms, it was finally agreed that each delegate should be free to take what course he pleased, after the Convention broke up; such course as his conscientious convictions might dictate. I am speaking in the hearing of one of your honors who was a delegate, and who will probably speak on this point. Well, when the report came to be revised, it contained a clause in which were these words: "The proceedings of the Conference shall be signed by the delegates, &c." I did not like that paragraph when it came to be read, because, in the plain words in which it was couched and in their ordinary sense, it might be implied if so subscribed by each delegate that he subscribed to everything which the report contained. This brought forth a discussion, and that discussion revived what was said at a previous meeting, as I have related. Other delegates, as well as myself, refused to subscribe to the report, because the paragraph thus worded might be considered as giving their assent to everything it contained, without some qualifying meaning upon it. It was then proposed to make an alteration, and it was altered accordingly to its present shape, viz: "shall be *authenticated* by the signatures," &c. A number of the delegates would not sign it till that word was put in place of the word "signed;" it was simply authenticated by their signatures as the report of the majority. I then subscribed it with the great majority of the delegates I feel it necessary to give this explanation for reasons which may recur to the minds of some of your honors, and that being done, I am free to give an opinion, as I have done before, as disagreeing to the whole scheme, as inimical to the interests of the people and to the prosperity of the country. I look upon this, that we are a community enjoying all advantages and privileges of a sole and separate government, and, what is greater, the advantages of self-government which has been graciously conceded to us by our Sovereign. We enjoy all the blessing of British liberty and self-government which all the other Colonies enjoy, and I look upon it that if we enter Confederation, while we might obtain some advantages—and I do not deny that we might—yet, giving up the control of the government of our own country, except some small local matters, would be making a sacrifice which Confederation, on the terms offered, would not compensate us for. I know that the question is frequently asked by the warm advocates of union, why, if this proposed scheme is good for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, is it not good for this Island? But I fancy that they have a little reason to change their minds when they have seen the determination of New Brunswick within the last few weeks; and I admit that there may be strong reasons why Nova Scotia or New Brunswick should go into the union, which are not applicable to this Island, for we are situated in a very different position. I may notice the opinion of one of the principal statesmen of Canada, Mr. Galt, who took an active part in this Convention, and who is looked up to as sound authority on financial matters. I must take this opportunity of noticing some expressions made use of by that gentleman in his celebrated Sherbrooke speech. In speaking of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick going into the Union, he says:—

"Although the construction of this railway might, perhaps, be more advantageous as to its local effects to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia than even to Lower Canada,—without question more advantageous than to Upper Canada—yet as a means by which the Union was to be accomplished, and by which alone it could be brought about, there was an interest belonging to it," &c.

Now these sentiments were uttered by him in reference to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, after he had become intimately acquainted with the delegates from these Provinces and knew their opinions. He attributes their whole reasons for going into Confederation to the advantages they expected to derive from the railway; and then at the conclusion of the speech he makes the following significant allusion to Canada:—"In conclusion he (Mr. Galt) would remark that the *political necessities* of Canada seemed to render a measure of Union of all the Provinces of British North America necessary in itself."

Now, these two passages from a speech made by a gentleman standing in the position in which Mr. Galt stands, speak loudly to show how all the arguments for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick going into the Union should be viewed and weighed before drawing the mind to the same conclusion as regards Prince Edward Island. These considerations have not been overlooked by the delegates of New Brunswick, and particularly by Mr. Fisher. I mention this to show that the same reasons do not exist for this Island going into the union, and therefore the question must rest solely on whatever intrinsic merits it may possess in itself. Now, in a question of this kind I think it rests with the advocates of union to show reasons for the alteration. At present we are as happy and contented a people as can be found. Our taxation is extremely light as compared with the other Colonies, and I do not see why we should alter our condition. If we go into Confederation we must expect that our taxation will be increased at a great rate. We know that in Canada, as it is shadowed forth in the articles of the Report of the Conference, there would be demands to carry into execution expensive public works, which would call for immense sums of money from the federated treasury. For Railways and Canals a very large amount would be required: according to a recent author, Munro, the expense of the canal to connect Lake Erie with Ontario would cost $22,170,000, and as much more to complete the communication with the Atlantic; and we know that, situated as Canada is, so near at hand to a large military power, the money which would necessarily be expended in military defences, for an army and for training their people, would be a very great amount. Their fortifications would call for the expenditure of millions of dollars. And we cannot but observe that they have recently been called upon to expend a very large sum in their military department which was not contemplated at the time the convention sat and rose. I mean that expended for a force for the alleged purpose of preventing raids into Canadian territory. This shows, and ought to convince us that our taxation under the union must increase to an enormous extent. At present I need only refer to a Canadian circular, which has been lying on this table for some time, giving a statement of the financial condition of Canada, and making a comparison between statistics of the various Provinces. In that table a calculation is made of the amount of revenue per head of the population. In Newfoundland it is $3.50, in Nova Scotia $3.39, in New Brunswick $3.29, in Prince Edward Island $2.29, and in Canada, $3.51. Taking the average of the other Provinces we find that it is just 50 per cent. above that of this Colony. Now is it possible that, while this is actually the state of facts with regard to the revenue, is it possible I say that upon going into confederation, and carrying out those great public works, any change that may be made in the revenue will be to the advantage of this Island? The probability is that the revenue would have to be increased at least 50 per cent., and therefore I think this shows us what ill judgment it would be on our part to accede to the proposed Confederation. Then we know further that their Impost duties are much greater than ours, which will be seen if we look at the different articles and the amount paid upon each; and we must remember that if we go into Confederation we surrender our power of keeping our taxation at the rate which we have kept it at, and must submit to the rate of the tariff of Canada. In the *Protestant* of the 18th of February last, I find a tabular statement, and, as far as my judgment goes, it is faithfully and accurately given. It shows that in the year 1863 the amount of duties paid on the principal articles of importation from which our revenue is derived was £38,550; but if the Canadian tariff had been applied it would have been, on the same articles, £66,332 17s. 6d., making a difference of £27802 17s. 11d, which we would have had to pay under Confederation. Now, that speaks in pretty strong language to show that we would suffer greatly if we went into Confederation with provisions which would render us liable to such a tariff upon those different articles.

Now, it is stated that the subsidy and the capitation tax to be granted to this Island would make ample compensation for the surrender of our revenue. That subsidy is £27,890, the capitation tax £20,250. The liabilities assumed by the Federal Government would be £62,000. Now, this is pointed at, and we are told that it will be sufficient for all our purposes. They are fixed amounts; and however much our revenue may increase, we are tied down to these amounts, and if united would have to give the whole increase to the general revenue. We may just take a glance at the state of our revenue and show what the increase is likely to be, judging from what it has been for a number of years past. In 1850 the amount of our revenue was £18,000, and in 1864 it was £66,000; that is an increase of £48,000 in a space of fourteen years. Now, if we divide that amount, £48,000, by fourteen, it gives us £3,428 as the average annual increase for the last fourteen years. I think this is a fair way to ascertain what it is likely to be ten years hence. Multiply £3,428 by 10, then add that to the revenue for 1864, and you have what it is likely to be in 1874—£100,280. That would be the amount of our revenue ten years hence if it increases as it has done for the last fourteen years, and the probability is that the ratio of increase would be greater; for the more widely our resources are developed the greater the increased ratio would be to the revenue. Now, the whole amount of revenue which we can expect under Confederation from all sources, ten years hence, would be £67,712, and if we are paying £100,000, it is easily seen that we would be subjected to a yearly loss of £32,568. That is a part of what some people call "the advantages of going into Confederation." I look upon it that these figures cannot be controverted, for they are taken from the best data; and I feel assured that the amount of our revenue under Confederation would not be sufficient to meet our growing wants, and we would have to resort to direct taxation, which we would feel much more severely than we do any taxes we have to pay at present. But we are told that under certain articles of the Report of the Convention we would enjoy the advantages of free trade! Well, free trade might answer Canada, and I cannot see what great benefits it would confer upon Prince Edward Island. Canada sends us a very small amount of what we want at present. The trade between this Island and Canada amounts to little or nothing at present, and I do not see why it would take a rapid increase if we should go into Confederation. I do not know what articles of merchandize it would give us exemption of duty from. By free trade I understand that reciprocity in different commodities by which, when you want to import an article from any country, you may pay for it in an article of your own; or by taking any article which you have to dispose of to a country where it would be received free of duty, and purchasing what you want in return; but I do not know what we can go to market in Canada with, except hard cash; and I do not think that will be any advantage to the country. I think it would be much better for us to trade with Great Britain and other countries which would take our articles of export in exchange for what we require. I do not see why free trade should be held up to us as an inducement to enter the Union, for if the Colonies are confederated together, where is the revenue to arise from? If articles of trade between these Colonies are exempt from duty, they must put a higher duty upon articles imported from Great Britain and other countries. Now, look at the state we would be thrown into. Immediately upon entering the Union we would have to sustain a tariff fifty per cent. higher than we do at present, with every prospect of it being greatly increased to meet the wants of the Confederate Government. Then we would have to import many articles from Great Britain or other countries which are not manufactured in Canada, and will not be for ages to come. Therefore, I say, let us remain as we are, and not look to those delusive prospects of improving our condition by going into the Union. Then they tell us that the neighboring Republic is growing offensive, and the state of the military defences requires us to go into the Union. Well, I admit these premises, and I am sorry to think that the day seems not far distant when there will be great commotions. My experience while on the recent delegation to Canada has confirmed me in that opinion. The Canadians themselves were very apprehensive, and I learned from gentlemen of experience that their opinion was that the day was fast approaching when there would be a disturbance in the relations between Great Britain and the United States; and I found that one of the great inducements which was driving Canada into this scheme was the necessity for putting their Province in a state of defence; and many things which I have heard since has confirmed me in that opinion. But I cannot subscribe to the doctrine that we should be taxed for the expenses of the defences of Canada as high as the Canadians themselves. It has been said that we should make common cause with them—that their defences would be our defences—and that the frontiers of Canada would be the battle ground for Prince Edward Island. There may be a great deal of philanthropy in that, but when I look at the position and interests of Prince Edward Island I cannot subscribe to the philanthropy or the philosophy of that argument. They are right at the door of a powerful neighbor, and they must put up with their lot, as we have to put up with many inconveniencies here which they never feel. They have a great many advantages which we do not possess. They have the advantage of Railroads and Canals; they have facilities for carrying on manufactures through their long winters; advantages of uninterrupted trade and of climate, and others which we have not, and cannot have here. They are not shut up by an ice-bound coast for several months of the year as we are. Therefore I do not see that it would be fair for us to share equal burdens with them in the taxation which would be necessary for military defences. Nature defends us for half the year, and if we have disadvantages, we should be allowed to enjoy compensating advantages which nature affords us. It is impossible for Great Britain to have fleets on this side of the Atlantic without being in the vicinity of this Island. If, as I have said on other occasions, the

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