

“Canada A People’s History: The Great Enterprise”

Strangers In Charlottetown

- Days earlier, a boat has set off along the St. Lawrence bound for Charlottetown. On it the most influential politicians in the province of Canada. George Brown is now in a _____ with a man he previously called, “a dried up political weasel.” He and John A. Macdonald have decided to tolerate each other. He has also made peace with a man he used to call, “a damnable little French Canadian,” George-Etienne Cartier.
- They each go with different motives in mind. Cartier feels that if he can persuade the Maritimes to join in a union, together their population would balance that of English Canada West. Brown dreams about the end of French domination of English affairs, the end of political stalemate. Macdonald worries about _____ aggression. If the Maritimes will join Canada perhaps together they can resist their powerful neighbour.
- The Maritime politicians are conducting their own meetings to explore Maritime _____ . They politely postpone their discussions to hear what the Canadians have to say.
- For several days behind closed doors they talk. Separated and isolated, the Canadians argue, the colonies are vulnerable, economically weak. Together they could build a _____ from the Atlantic to the Pacific. They are amazed to discover they see the world much the same way.
- But mostly, they come to know each other when they adjourn for the day as they stroll in the woods or drink champagne by the sea. In a matter of days, the Maritimers and Canadians have persuaded each other of the _____ of union. What kind of union and on whose terms remain to be seen.

Three Weeks In Quebec

- October 1864, summer has given way to a chilly autumn. Politicians from Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Canada are gathering in _____ City.

- The railway barons are in town, hoping the delegates will agree to build a railway linking all the _____. They spare no expense entertaining on their private cars making the politicians as comfortable as possible.
- Cartier's most powerful critic is alarmed by the meeting in Quebec. Antoine-Aimé Dorion leads the _____ Parti.
- 50 of the _____ resolutions are written behind closed doors, chiefly by Macdonald. ... Macdonald's fingerprints show. He tries to make sure that Ottawa dominates the new federation.
- But the late night work of John A. Macdonald is making many Maritime delegates uncomfortable. Prince Edward Islanders feel increasingly isolated. They had wanted the Canadians to help them settle a century old problem, buying out absentee _____ who own most of the island. But, the leading Canadians are not listening anymore. Every motion seems to go against the interests of the smallest colony.
- Other Maritimers fear Ottawa has been made all-powerful, the provinces _____.
- After many arguments, they agree to representation by _____, a division of powers between federal and provincial governments, and peace, order and good government for the citizens.

Let Their Memory Be Dark

- When it comes to Confederation, the English half of the province seems immediately sold. They gain more representation in parliament for their growing population and a promise of new _____ when the west is opened.

- But in French Canada Cartier's opponents are rising up. Clubs like the Institut Canadien echo with speeches _____ Confederation.
- In the winter of 1865, the Rouge go from community to community trying to stir up _____. But, their leaders do not have a clear alternative to offer. In the far flung communities across French Canada there is little time for distant political battles.
- Most of Quebec's bishops agree. They instruct the faithful to _____ Cartier and the new union from the pulpit and in the quiet of the confessional.
- In the end, Cartier and Macdonald put the deal to a vote in the provincial legislature. It passes easily 91 in favour, 33 against. But the members from French ridings are _____ down the middle.
- The people of the province never vote on the resolutions themselves, but in the next general election proponents of Confederation are massively re-elected. The Rouge know they have _____.

Good Management And Means

- In the mid-1860s the Maritime colonies are booming. The American Civil War brings prosperity to every port. There is a surge in worldwide demand for _____ and lumber.
- When Maritimers think about the world beyond their borders, it is likely to be Liverpool or Boston, not Montreal. Few have ever done business with an Upper or Lower Canadian, but the premier of New Brunswick has. Samuel Tilley comes back from Quebec City persuaded that New Brunswick's future must be with _____.

- Tilley's message has little resonance outside of St. John. He holds a snap election and _____ . An anti-confederation government takes his place.
- In London, William Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer, favours the Quebec deal. He is _____ at the voters of New Brunswick.
- Orders are dispatched to set things straight. The Queen's representative in New Brunswick arranges for the upstart government to be brought _____ .
- But Tilley needs money to get re-elected. He turns to his new friend Macdonald. ... In Montreal a company with deep pockets heeds the call. The Grand Trunk Railway is keenly interested in the idea of linking Canada with the Maritimes by rail. They have plenty of friends in Montreal; George- Etienne Cartier is after all their lawyer and a senior minister in government. But the Grand Trunk needs friends in the east as well. C.J. Brydges, the railway's general manager, promises utter discretion in the campaign to _____ Tilley.
- In Nova Scotia more trouble is brewing. Charles Tupper takes pride in the deal he made in _____ and hopes it will quietly sail through the legislature in Halifax and it might have except for the efforts of one man.
- For several months readers of the Morning Chronicle are entertained by the skewering of Confederation, renamed "Botheration." The letters are unsigned, but everyone knows they could only come from one very witty and learned citizen. Though no longer in office, Joseph Howe is much loved as the man who brought _____ government to Nova Scotia.
- Howe reflects the independent habits of Nova Scotia. The economy is strong, the shops are busy. He argues Confederation could ruin this happy equilibrium. But, a new threat from the _____ is about to upset the balance once again.

- In April 1865, the world wakes up to startling headlines. With the death of Abraham Lincoln and the end of the Civil War, another kind of menace is building on the _____ border. Disbanded soldiers with their own scores to settle, not with the south, but with Canada.
- For years the Fenian Brotherhood has been preparing to do battle with the British army in North America. Tie the enemy down while Brothers back home fight to rid Ireland of the English. Some are battle-hardened veterans of the Civil War, others just boys recruited off the streets of New York or Boston, barely old enough to shave. They are just a few hundred, but brag they will capture _____. Militia are called up to repel them all across British North America.
- For months the Fenians launch raids along the Canadian frontier and the New Brunswick border. They leave a few dead in their wake, buried in the fields where they fall. The Fenians are more of a psychological threat than a military one. But advocates of Confederation know the Fenians can only help their cause. Unite the colonies and build a railway, they argue, we will never again be vulnerable to outside _____.
- A nervous population begins to listen. Tilley and the pro-Confederationists are re-elected in New Brunswick. And in Nova Scotia feelings swing more in favour of Confederation. Tupper arranges it so that no vote is taken on the actual Quebec deal. Instead, a resolution is passed embracing the principle of Confederation. Supporters have _____ the day in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Canadas.

A Great Revolution

- Delegates from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Canada have checked in at the Westminster Palace Hotel. No one has come from Newfoundland or Prince Edward Island where the deal is in

disfavour. They are here to hammer out the final _____ of their accord. It is complex legal work.

- Only one important change to the Quebec deal is made in London. At the request of English Protestants from Quebec, a new article is quietly inserted giving them special _____. Macdonald feels they must wrap up their work before other changes are demanded.
- On March 29th, the Queen gives her consent to the union of her British North American colonies. Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick will now become the dominion of _____.

July 1, 1867

- In Ottawa, John A. is now Sir John A. Macdonald, the Prime _____ of Canada.
- On this July 1st, Prince Edward Islanders have little to celebrate. No agreement has been reached on buying back their farms from absentee landowners. Like Newfoundland, they have not entered Confederation for now. Not until _____ will P.E.I. celebrate July 1st with the rest of Canada.