

subsequent development of the whole western region, the enlargement (twice) of the limits of Manitoba, the creation out of the Northwest Territories of the two provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta and of the Yukon Territory are matters within recent memory. The maps on pages 73 and 74 illustrate the political development of Canada from 1867 to 1905.

In 1867 British Columbia had a separate provincial Government, established in 1858. After the provincial Legislature had passed resolutions in favour of union with Canada on certain specified conditions, including the construction of a trans-continental railway and the maintenance of a sea service between Victoria and San Francisco, the Pacific province on July 20, 1871, joined the Confederation. Two years later (July 1, 1873) Prince Edward Island also was admitted.

In 1866, the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States of 1854 had been abrogated. The effect was temporarily depressing so far as Canada was concerned, but the main result was to create an active search for other markets, and in the same year a commission, headed by Hon. Wm. McDougall, was sent to the West Indies and South America with that object. In the same year an attack was made by the Fenians, chiefly soldiers from the disbanded armies of the northern states, on the Niagara frontier. In an engagement which took place near the village of Ridgeway, the Canadian volunteers sustained, for their numbers, considerable loss; but the enemy, hearing of the advance of a body of regular troops, made their escape to the American side, where they were arrested by the civil authorities.

An important event in the early history of the Dominion was the negotiation of the Treaty of Washington (1871). The abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, had put an end to the fishing rights in British waters which, under that treaty, the Americans had enjoyed. American fishermen were, however, slow to recognize or accept the change, and were bent on enjoying the privileges to which they had grown accustomed. When some of their vessels were seized and confiscated much ill-feeling arose; and, as the Alabama claims were still unsettled, relations between Great Britain and the United States were in a highly unsatisfactory condition.

In these circumstances it was decided to refer the principal matters in dispute between the two countries to a joint commission, consisting of five members from each; the Canadian Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, was appointed as a member on the British side in order that the interests of Canada might have full representation. The Commission accomplished some useful work, inasmuch as it provided a means for the settlement of the Alabama claims and of the San Juan question; but while the Canadian Parliament ratified the clauses relating to Canadian interests, the feeling was general that those interests had in a measure been sacrificed. The fisheries were to be thrown open to the Americans for a period of ten years, and a commission was to decide as to the compensation to be paid to Canada for the privilege. The Americans were to have free navigation of the St. Lawrence and the use of the Canadian canals on the same terms as Canadians, while the latter were to have the free navigation of lake Michigan. It had been hoped that some compensation might be obtained for losses inflicted by the Fenians, but the Americans refused absolutely to entertain the proposition.

The government that was formed to carry Confederation underwent an important change before that event took place. George Brown resigned in the month of December, 1865, the assigned reason being that he could not agree with his colleagues as to the expediency of pushing negotiations with the government at Washington on the subject of reciprocity. Later, when Confederation had been fully accomplished, a political question arose, namely, whether or not the govern-