

ARGUMENTS AGAINST CONFEDERATION

THE CANADAS

The following were arguments that some prominent people in the Canadas had against a Federal Union.

- There were still problems between Canada East and Canada West that needed to be worked out first. (French vs English, "Rep by Pop")
- Fear of change (ie: seperating from Britain)
- A union of Canadas with the U.S. made more sense. The U.S. was closer than the Maritimes and there was already a strong trade relationship between the two.
- Remove the trade tarrifs (taxes) between the colonies would be a solution, there was no need for a political union.

THE MARITIMES

- The Maritimers didn't trust the financial skills of the Canadians. They felt the Canadians were irresponsible and even corrupt.
- There was a difference in opinion by the Maritimes and Canada regarding taxes on imports.
- Some Maritimers did not feel the need to extend the rail system through the Canadas:
 - waste of money
 - ships were better
 - costly to build and defend
- Some Maritimers had a fierce loyalty to Britian (ie: Joseph Howe)
- Many argued that it would be next to impossible to defend a long unprotected boarder that would exist after a federal union. Many Maritimers didn't want their militia fighting battles in Canada.
- Some Maritimers argued that a new Central (federal) government could possibly keep all the new provinces happy. They pointed to the U.S. Civil War as an example.