

45  
5- 2  
kept from the consideration of the people of Nova Scotia at the polls, and the Executive Council and Legislature, in defiance of petitions signed by many thousands of the electors of this Province, persistently and perseveringly prevented the same from being presented to the people.

"That at the recent election the question of Confederation exclusively occupied the attention of the people who were then for the first time enabled to express their will on a subject of the most vital importance to their happiness, and the result has proved that this Province does not desire to be annexed to Canada, and that the people of Nova Scotia repudiate the enforced provisions of the British North America Act, which, for the reasons set forth in the foregoing Resolutions, they believe to be unconstitutional and in no manner binding upon the people of Nova Scotia.

"That the Quebec scheme which is embodied in the British North America act, imprudently attempted to be forced on the people of Nova Scotia, not only without their consent but against their will, has already created wide-spread irritation and discontent, and unless the same be withdrawn will, we fear, be attended with the most disastrous consequences, as the loyal people of this Province are fully conscious of their rights as British subjects, set an inestimable value upon their free institutions, and will not willing-

ly consent to the invasion of those rights or to be subjected to the dominion of any other power than that of their lawful and beloved Queen.

"That the colonies were politically allied to each other by their common relationship to the Queen and her Empire, in a more peaceable and less dangerous connection than under any scheme of Colonial Confederation that could be devised, even on the fairest, wisest and most judicious principles.

"That the people of Nova Scotia do not impute to Her Majesty the Queen and her Government any intentional injustice, as they are well aware that fraud and deception were practised upon them by those who misrepresented the public sentiment of this country, and who, for reasons we will not venture to describe, desired that Confederation might be forced upon this Province without the consent and against the will of the people.

"That an humble address be presented to the Queen, embodying the substance of the foregoing Resolutions, informing Her Majesty that her loyal people of Nova Scotia do not desire to be in any manner confederated with Canada, and praying Her Majesty to revoke her Proclamation, and to cause the British North America act to be repealed, as far as it regards the Province of Nova Scotia."