

the Province of Quebec, the Conservative leaders are anxiously striving to introduce into the discussion of Provincial matters in the present elections as the sole issue on which they should be determined, the perplexities of the so-called National Tariff, with which the Government, Legislature and Electors of Ontario (as such) have nothing whatever to do, and which they cannot control one way or the other.

While Provincial interests under the scheme of Confederation are committed to the care of a Provincial Government and Legislature, and matters of general concern are entrusted to the Dominion Government and Parliament, their spheres of action are independent of each other; and the successful working of Confederation requires that this independence in their Legislative and Executive capacities should be carefully observed, or otherwise the most valuable of the privileges gained by Confederation—the political autonomy of each Province, will be in jeopardy. While there is then no subordination of the Provincial Legislative authority to that of the Dominion, it will also have been seen that the subjects within the jurisdiction of the former are as important and concern the peace, general welfare, and good government of the inhabitants of the different Provinces, as those within the jurisdiction of the Dominion, if not, in several particulars much more important. The principal Dominion subjects are (1) the general regulation of trade and commerce; (2) the raising of money by any system of taxation; (3) the public debt and borrowing of money; (4) the postal service, (5) the military and naval service and defence, (6) navigation, shipping, and matters incident thereto, (7) currency, banking and financial matters, (8) the law of marriage and divorce, and (9) the criminal law and procedure: but the classes of subjects assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the Provinces are expressly excepted from the jurisdiction of the Dominion.

The power of the appointment of Lieutenant-Governors, and of the Judges of the Superior Courts in each of the Provinces rests with the Governor-General in Council, with the power of dismissing the Lieutenant-Governors, and, on an address of the Senate and House of Commons, also the Judges.

Any Legislative action of the Provincial Legislatures is subject to the like power of disallowance by the Governor-General in Council as that of the Dominion is subject to by Her Majesty in Council.

The people of this Province have been taught by the practical lessons of the period from 1841 to 1867, how specially important it is to their welfare and good government that such public matters as the management and sale of the public lands and the revenues therefrom, as well as from mines and minerals, the control of our municipal institutions, supreme authority over property and civil rights, the efficient administration of justice, and the responsibility of educating the whole people of the Province, should be regulated by a Legislature conversant with such subjects, and their bearings upon the interests of the Province; and that they should be administered by such of their number in whose intelligence and integrity the Legislature have confidence, when it is