

provided by the *British North America* Act, 1867, and that the difficulties which beset the question have been greatly aggravated by the award rendered by the Arbitrators appointed by the Dominion Government and by the Government of *Ontario*, in the absence of any Arbitrator for the Province of *Quebec*, which is regarded by the Government and the people of *Quebec* as illegal and unjust, and praying that Her Majesty be pleased to recommend the passing of an Act by the Imperial Parliament so amending the *British North America* Act as to authorize the Parliament of *Canada* to deal by Legislative enactment with all questions connected with the said surplus debt ;

The Honorable Sir *George E. Cartier* moved, in amendment, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Tilley*, that all the words after "That" to the end of the Question, be left out and the words "the validity of the award rendered by the Arbitrators appointed by the Dominion Government and by the Government of *Ontario*, in the absence of any Arbitrator for the Province of *Quebec*, being contested by the Province of *Quebec* ; and the Government of *Canada* having come to the conclusion not to act on such award until its validity shall have been determined by a competent judicial tribunal, this House refrains from expressing an opinion on the award so rendered" inserted instead thereof ;

The Honorable Mr. *Chauveau* moved, in amendment to the said proposed amendment, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Beaubien*, that the words "the validity of the award rendered by the Arbitrators appointed by the Dominion Government and by the Government of *Ontario* in the absence of any Arbitrator for the Province of *Quebec*, being contested by the Province of *Quebec* ; and the Government of *Canada* having come to the conclusion not to act on such award until its validity shall have been determined by a competent judicial tribunal, this House refrains from expressing an opinion on the award so rendered" be left out, and the words "it is highly desirable that the difficulty now existing between the Provinces of *Quebec* and *Ontario* concerning the divisions and adjustments of the debts, liabilities, credits, properties and assets of Upper *Canada* and of Lower *Canada* provided for by the *British North America* Act, be speedily set at rest, and that this House will give it most favorable consideration to any measure to be introduced by the Government, having this object in view, and involving any aid on the part of the Dominion commensurate with the importance of the object itself, and with our resources ; due regard being had to the rights of the other Provinces," inserted instead thereof ;

And Objection being taking by Mr. *Mills*, Member for the Electoral District of *Bothwell*, That this Motion in amendment to the proposed amendment is not in order, inasmuch as it involves an appropriation, and asks the House to commit itself to an expenditure of money, which cannot be done without a Message from His Excellency,

Mr. Speaker decided That it is not in order.

And the Question being proposed on the amendment to the Original Question ;

The Honorable Mr. *Holton* moved, in amendment to the said proposed amendment, seconded by Mr. *Delorme*, That the words "the validity of the award rendered by the Arbitrators appointed by the Dominion Government and by the Government of *Ontario* in the absence of any Arbitrator for the Province of *Quebec*, being contested by the Province of *Quebec* ; and the Government of *Canada* having come to the conclusion not to act on such award until its validity shall have been determined by a competent judicial tribunal, this House refrains from expressing an opinion on the award so rendered," be left out, and the words "this House regrets that His Excellency the Governor General has not been advised to recommend to this House to adopt an Address to Her Majesty, the Queen, representing that the division between the Province of *Ontario* and the Province of *Quebec*, of the surplus of the debt of the former Province of *Canada*, over and above the sum of \$62,500,000, assigned to the Dominion of *Canada* by the *British North America* Act, presents great difficulties, which it has not hitherto been possible to overcome in a satisfactory manner ; that the difficulties resulting as well from the uncertainty as to the amount of the debt to be divided, as from the absence of an acceptable base for the making of such division, and that of the assets remaining in