

“ enacted by the Federal Parliament and the Local Legislatures would, we think, have the effect of making the wheels of the Confederation machine run more smoothly ; such a tribunal would prevent many bitter and irritating disputes, and would settle such as might arise, speedily and effectually. ”

This reluctant testimony amply atones for the attacks on us which the calling of the Conference had evoked, even before its object and the character of its work were known. When journals like the *Gazette* and *Star*, the known organs of what is most unjust in the English Tory party, are obliged to pay such an homage to our work, it must be admitted that the work of that Conference must have been useful, fruitful and of a great advantage to the country.

There are only three points on which these journals are not willing to adopt the conclusions arrived at by the Conference ; these are the resolutions regarding the Senate, the power of disavowal, and the readjustment of the Federal Subsidies.

#### THE SENATE.

As to the Senate, we simply ask that half of that body be appointed by the Provinces respectively and the other half by the Federal Government, but only for a limited term. Such a system would secure to the Provinces a certain measure of protection against the encroachments of the Federal power and would free that Chamber of the partisan character which distinguishes it as at present constituted.

I can hardly see why the Bleus should oppose such a reform ; in 1854 when the constitution of the old Legislative Council was modified, the Tory Press pronounced in favor of an analogous system, but one that was more radical in character. Thus, the *Montreal Gazette*, which was then as now the organ of the most fanatical section of the Tory party, desired that the Legislative Councillors should be elected by the Municipal Councils, that is, it desired that the composition of the Legislative Council should be absolutely outside of the control of the Crown. The resolutions of the Conference do not most certainly go that far, and if the *Gazette* could be logical, it cannot do otherwise than approve what we propose.