

been settled. This Government has absolutely made Halifax a winter port, and if the Allans' steamers will take freight past Halifax, how can the Government prevent it. Suppose to-morrow you refused to allow the vessel which lands the mails at Halifax to carry freight to Boston, will not other vessels do that work? How can the Government prevent that? It is utterly unreasonable; but there is something more than patriotism at the bottom of these absurd claims. Half those gentlemen who are advocating this winter port question in Halifax are, I admit, sincere, however unreasonable they may be, but the rest are not. They are making use of it as a means of sapping the strength and influence of the Government in Halifax, and they would sooner the Government would not do anything so they should have a grievance to use as a political engine against the Conservative party. I think the greatest grief that could come over some of those gentlemen, including the Senator from Halifax, would be in case that their claims should be met and all their expectations realized. I do hope, and I feel confident, that this Government and the able men that Nova Scotia possesses in it—for we have the good fortune to be represented in the Cabinet by two gentlemen, perhaps second to none in ability, and I am certain the people of Nova Scotia consider them to be second to none in Canada in zeal and patriotism—will obtain anything that can be fairly got for Halifax; any claim which can be honestly and reasonably urged in favour of Nova Scotia will be advocated by them with a zeal and ability and perseverance that will insure success. I say, therefore, that Nova Scotia has nothing to fear in regard to its interests, and I believe the sound sense of the people of that Province will, after all, enable the electors to see through the dishonest means by which men who are deserving of the confidence of the country, and who are ready on all occasions to sacrifice their personal interests (as these two Ministers have done as much as any public men in Canada)—I believe the sound sense of Nova Scotia when the opportunity offers, will lead the people to do as they did last election—return these gentlemen with a larger

*Hon. Mr. Miller.*

proportionate majority than any Minister had in any part of the Dominion, except, perhaps, Quebec.

At six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

#### AFTER RECESS.

Hon. Mr. BELLEROSE—I do not know that I have any observations to offer to this Honorable House on the resolutions which are now before us, for the very good reason that I do not see that there is anything in them which would prevent any member of this House from giving them his support. But I may, while I am on my feet, offer my congratulations to the Government for the step they have taken concerning the Pacific Railway question. I may say that in years past when I was thinking over this great scheme, I always doubted whether this young Dominion of ours could entertain such a project with any prospect of bringing it to completion. Therefore, I feel that the Government of the day have acted wisely and patriotically when they decided to put this great undertaking into the hands of a company, and although we do not know what arrangements the Government have made with the company which is now being formed to carry on the work, and, I may add, that even though those arrangements may be found later of such a nature that the representatives of the people could not consider it in the interests of the Dominion to accept them, yet, even then, I say that the Government would still deserve the gratitude of the people of this country in general, and of the members of this hon. House in particular; and I for one do not hesitate to offer them my congratulations for so much as is now known to us on this subject. But while I am ready to endorse their policy so far as it has been made known by the gracious speech of His Excellency the Governor-General at the opening of this session, I regret that I consider it my pressing duty to complain of the position assigned to the Province of Quebec in the reconstruction of the Government. For the past two years I have often thought over the exception which in the name of that Province some of the hon. members of this House took during the session of 1878 to the forma-