

independent and just arbitrator—to the Imperial Government. If Nova Scotia took the ground of repeal, they would injure their advocacy of a re-adjustment of commercial relations and of the Intercolonial Railway. For these reasons alone, they should accept the situation and not take up the role of the Ishmaelite, with their hand against every man, and every man's hand against them. Should they adhere to repeal, they would weaken any party they attached themselves to, either Ministry or Opposition. (Applause.)

**Mr. Bellerose**, after enthusiastic congratulations on the benefits of Confederation, and insisting on the importance of the currency and the militia questions, said that the Lower Canadian opposition had tried to raise up prejudices against Confederation, but had utterly failed after full explanations were given.

**Mr. McLellan** said Mr. Speaker, I have listened to the appeal to the representatives from Nova Scotia by the honourable member from Cumberland, to accept the situation and aid in perpetuating this Union. Earnest and energetic as the honourable member was in his appeal, there is one of much more power and effect coming up to us from the people we left behind—whose wishes we must obey; whose interest we must never forget. He asks us to follow the example of the member from Westmorland, N.B. who gives his adhesion to the Act, but he forgets the difference in our positions. The member for Westmorland is here from a Province, the large majority of whose people approve of his course, whilst we are sent here by a people who strongly disapprove of the Act in all its main features, and desire to have restored to them the power to control the affairs of their own Province, in conformity to the principles of the British Constitution. He reminded us that we have been treated by the House with courtesy. True, we have no cause for complaint on this point, but if we follow his advice—if we disregard the wishes of our constituents; if in a word, we betray them, then will we forfeit our claim to the civilities and courtesies of every honourable man in this House. He thinks we should rest satisfied with having had our revenge at the polls. He mistakes the people of Nova Scotia, if he supposes they are to be satisfied with this. They have been insulted and have had some measure of revenge, but the wrong done them has not been redressed, and without that they will not be content. The honourable member would have this House

[Dr. Tupper (Cumberland)]

believe that this feeling is not general throughout Nova Scotia, because the Unionists polled about 13,000 votes at the recent election out of 47,000, but the House will bear in mind that this number was only obtained by the utmost possible pressure of both Governments under the favourable circumstances of having the measure passed inducing very many thereby to believe that as the act was done, there was no remedy, and the men who framed the measure of Union should be elected to put it in operation. He refers particularly to the county of Annapolis, and states that in 1864 that county gave a majority of 250 in favour of the gentleman who now represents it in this Parliament, whilst at the last election, run on this question, his majority was only one hundred and fifty. He should have informed the House, that in addition to the change in the franchise reducing the number of voters, that the Union candidate had sustaining him all the influence connected with the building of eighty miles of railway for the benefit of that county. He tells you that in the county of Colchester, the gentleman appointed to the office of Home Secretary, polled a majority of the votes in one Riding. It is true that in that Riding of the county, where all the officials reside, and through which the railways to Pictou and Halifax pass, my opponent had a majority of forty-two votes, but the whole county gave me a majority of 372. If the honourable member from Cumberland means to have the House infer from this that I only represent a portion of Colchester county, I might retort upon him, and by the same mode of argument, prove to the House that the honourable member himself does not represent the county of Cumberland, or in fact anything belonging to Nova Scotia. I could inform the House that taking the county of Cumberland on its original boundaries, the vote was against the honourable gentleman, but in a polling section recently added to the county he had a majority sufficient to return him for the county. I might explain to the House that in that Parrsboro polling section, there is a public wharf known all over Nova Scotia as the Parrsboro Snag. Ever since its construction this Snag has been a continual drain upon the public treasury, so much so that the one gleam of comfort we have in Nova Scotia is that Confederation relieves us of the whole cost of its maintenance. The House will already understand that this continual expenditure made under the authority of the honourable member renders him very popular in that polling section, giving him its vote and thereby his election. Now, applying