

Then comes the member for the city of Halifax—Mr. Tobin—who served long and zealously upon the former committee entrusted with the management of the representation of Nova Scotia at the great exhibition. We find next the name of Mr. Uniacke, and if there is a gentleman entitled to be on that committee, it is he. We all know that he not only gave his time and attention to the committee already referred to, but was of very great service to the province at the exhibition in London. Next we see the name of Mr. Robert Morrow who, it is well known, is always ready to advance the interests of this country whenever it is in his power. And I may also mention that the Mining Association, with which he is connected, has generously consented to place a gigantic block of coal at the exhibition—there to remain a monument of the great natural resources of this country for all time to come in one of the great centres of industry of the United Kingdom. Then we find next Mr. Andrew Downs, whose services to this country as a naturalist, need hardly be mentioned at this time of day. The next gentleman has not the misfortune to reside in Halifax, and when I name him I mention one to whom the province is deeply indebted in many respects—I allude to Professor How, resident in the county of Hants. The next gentleman I find on the list is Professor Lawson who happens to live some fifteen miles outside of the city upon a farm. As connected with the agriculture of the country—being the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture—as a gentleman of wide scientific attainments, no one will deny that his services must be very useful. After him come the ex-Mayor, Mr. Hill, and another eminent naturalist John R. Willis. When gentlemen take the trouble to run their eye over the organization of this committee they will find a most influential representation of the country. I believe that the examination of that list, from the beginning to the end, will tell the House that instead of there being any disposition whatever to press unduly the influence of the city of Halifax, a most full and influential representation of the county has been given. Look at the Executive Committee, and the first name you see is that of Mr. McKinlay, chairman,—a gentleman who has spent more time and labour gratuitously for the purpose of presenting in the most attractive and beneficial manner the products of Nova Scotia, than perhaps any other man in the province. Then we find the name of Dr. Bernard Gilpin, and any one acquainted with him, knows that he has been rightly selected in consequence of the high attainments he possesses, and of the large amount of skill which he can bring to bear in connection with anything that touches the natural history of the province. Next we see the name of T. M. Jones, whose laborious co-operation and skill, in connection with the International Exhibition, are everywhere known and appreciated. Not only were his skill and scientific knowledge of great value in reference to general matters, but he gave a great deal of labour to the preparation of fish for representation. The next gentleman does not live in the city of Halifax, Dr. Forrester who, it is needless to state, gave a great deal of attention to the former exhibition, and has always been ready to give his co-operation in everything that is calculated to advance the industrial resources of Nova

Scotia. The next gentleman is Alderman Jennings who, it is known, gave to the late government the best aid in his power in reference to the past exhibition. The only remaining gentleman on the Executive committee is the one upon whom above all others the responsibility falls,—one who lives hundreds of miles away from the city in the direction of the constituency represented by the hon. member for Richmond,—Dr. Honeyman. In naming him, I refer to a gentleman who is respected throughout the province for the vigorous and efficient aid he has on every occasion when his services were required afforded. The only gentleman that will derive one penny of remuneration for his services from the public money contributed in aid of this committee is therefore one entirely unconnected with the city, but closely identified with the country. Therefore, I say that whilst the government are not in a position to claim any responsibility in reference to the committee, yet I consider that it is one which is calculated to promote the public interests. I think that I can safely appeal, not to the citizens of Halifax only, but to the people of the province at large, and ask whether I may not justify the construction of this committee and maintain that it presents not a monopoly of city influence, but such an amount of weight as the country may be fairly entitled to. I may add that the government did not feel themselves justified, so soon after so large an expenditure of public money in connection with the International Exhibition, in undertaking the responsibility in the present case and incurring the large expense that would necessarily have devolved upon them. All that they did, after the report which I shall now present to the house to be read, was to express their willingness to give a small contribution to the important object which these gentlemen to whom I have alluded have taken up—the representation of our resources at the forthcoming Dublin Exhibition.

The report was read by the Clerk, after which Mr. MILLER said—Any person who has listened to the long harangue of the hon. Prov. Sec., would imagine that I had asserted something to the disparagement of the gentlemen who compose the committee. Whereas the house will agree with me that no amount of ingenuity can construe my remarks into any thing like a reflection upon any one of these gentlemen; on the contrary I am prepared to endorse everything that the hon. Prov. Sec. has said as to the personal qualifications and merits of the gentlemen who form the committee, from His Excellency down to Mr. Willis—and to add my meed of praise to the eulogium which he has just passed upon them. My objection was of an entirely different character, and it will not do for the Prov. Sec. to endeavor to draw the attention of the house from the real ground of complaint. I objected that in the selection of a body of men who were to form a committee to represent the interests of the whole province, it was exceedingly unfair that with, but a few exceptions, they should be residents of the city of Halifax. It was true that the hon. Prov. Secy., and hon. Atty. Genl. represented country constituencies, but they had their residences in the city, and it was not to be expected that with their public duties, they would be in the position to bestow that attention upon the subject that