

the speech of the hon. member for North Toronto, he made some references to my hon. friend the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fielding) in connection with his administration of public affairs in the province of Nova Scotia, and in connection with the issue which was raised there in the election of 1886. That charge was reiterated, in a somewhat subdued and rarified form, I will admit, by the hon. member for East Lambton. The hon. member for North Toronto referred to the fact that in 1886 the Minister of Finance, then premier of Nova Scotia, went to the country upon an issue which was calculated to disrupt the confederation of Canada. I wish to remind you, Mr. Chairman, that the people of Nova Scotia have, as long as I can remember, taken an active and intelligent interest in public matters. I need scarcely do more than remind you, Sir, that the province of Nova Scotia, within twenty years, has given two prime ministers to the Dominion of Canada, and if the hopes and aspirations of hon. gentlemen opposite had been realized in the last election and they had been returned to power the province of Nova Scotia would have contributed a third prime minister to the Dominion of Canada, to show the deep and intelligent interest Nova Scotians must necessarily take in political matters. Having said so much, I desire to add that the issue that was framed by my hon. friend the Minister of Finance, and that received the approval of the people of Nova Scotia, was an issue that he was absolutely justified in submitting to the people. From the years 1878 to 1896 the province of Nova Scotia was in opposition to the Conservative government at Ottawa, of which the hon. member for North Toronto was a prominent member. Certain questions of right and justice which had arisen between the two governments, and which should have been settled and decided by the Conservative government at Ottawa in favour of the Liberal government in Nova Scotia, were not so settled. The rights of the province were ignored, and the people of Nova Scotia, driven to desperation, as they were on one other occasion, when a great question came up for their judgment, said: If we cannot get justice from the government at Ottawa we ought to get justice from some other source. In 1886 there was an election run in the province of Nova Scotia on the question of whether Nova Scotia ought to accept conditions as they existed and bear the hardships which were being imposed upon her by the government at Ottawa, or endeavour to secede from the union. I need not remind the committee that my hon. friend the Minister of Finance was amply sustained, handsomely vindicated, by the people of Nova Scotia upon that issue, and that he came back to the gov-

ernment of the province with a larger majority than he had before. In two subsequent elections my hon. friend the Minister of Finance led the Liberal party in Nova Scotia and led them successfully, as he has been successful upon every issue on which he appealed to the people during the twenty-nine years of his public life in Canada. We down in the province of Nova Scotia learned years ago to appreciate the eminent ability, unselfish character, loyalty and devotion with which the hon. Minister of Finance has always administered public affairs in Nova Scotia, and since he left the province of Nova Scotia to become Minister of Finance the people of that province have turned their eyes lovingly towards Ottawa to learn from day to day of the new things and the good things that my hon. friend was bringing to the people of Canada. He has brought many good things to the people of Canada, and that he may long live to bring many other good things to them is the devout wish of every man in Nova Scotia irrespective of politics, whether he be Conservative or Liberal. I referred a moment ago to the eminent talents of the Minister of Finance. I shall not discount upon his personal qualities, that must be manifest to every hon. member who knows him, but I will say that as respects his character, his ability, the great good which he has conferred upon the province of Nova Scotia and the Dominion of Canada, and as respects his loyalty to his colleagues and his country future generations of Nova Scotians will say of him:

He was a man, take him for all in all,
We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

Mr. T. S. SPROULE (East Grey). Mr. Speaker, the hon. member who has just taken his seat (Mr. Kyte) happens to come from a section of the country where the people have been for many years inclined to indulge in their own peculiar amusement of aerial navigation, each one vying with all his predecessors to make for himself a world's record as a kite flyer. But, unfortunately for their own reputation, they usually move around in the air promiscuously for a time and then finally land down in some deserted swamp or obscure lake. I do not think that the hon. member who has just taken his seat has established a record for himself any more important to hand down to posterity in that respect than many of his predecessors. He started out by saying that what was suitable for Canada in 1891 ought to be suitable for it in 1911. That may be true, or it may be false, because a great many changes have taken place in Canada in the last twenty years. The hon. member for South Wellington (Mr. Guthrie) said something about the same. He said that Canada, from 1854 to 1866, during the time we had the recipro-

Mr. KYTE.