

An act to amend the act to incorporate the International coal and railway company and the acts in amendment thereof. International coal co.

An act to incorporate the Nova Scotia slate company. Nova Scotia slate co.

An act relating to the sessions of the county of Halifax, Halifax assessments.

As now amended.

They have agreed to the bills severally entitled, as follows :

Have agreed to bills.

An act to incorporate the East River coal mining company. East river coal co.

An act to incorporate the Aconi coal company. Aconi coal co.

An act to protect the navigation of Cow Bay, in Cape Breton, Cow Bay navigation.

With amendments to those bills respectively, to which amendments they desire the concurrence of this honorable House. With amendments.

And then the messenger withdrew.

The amendments proposed by the Council to the bills entitled :

Amendments to bills.

An act to incorporate the East River coal mining company. East river coal co.

An act to incorporate the Aconi coal company. Aconi coal co.

An act to protect the navigation of Cow Bay in Cape Breton ; Cow Bay navigation.

Were severally read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On motion, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the resolution relating to Confederation of the British North American Provinces ; and after some time spent in such debate, the question having been propounded from the chair that such resolution be agreed to, Adjourned debate resumed.

Mr. S. Campbell moved by way of amendment thereto, that the House do come to the following resolution : Amendment moved.

*Whereas*, certain resolutions were adopted at a conference of Delegates from the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and the Colonies of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, held at the city of Quebec on the tenth day of October, 1864, as the basis of a proposed Confederation of those Provinces and Colonies.

*And whereas*, such conference was held without the authority or sanction of the Legislature and people of this Province.

*And whereas*, since the holding of such conference and the adoption of such resolutions, no general election has been held in this Province, but three special elections in the important constituencies of Annapolis, Lunenburg and Yarmouth, have taken place, and at such elections the people at the polls have expressed themselves as decidedly hostile to the proposed Confederation, and the members elected by such constituencies are prepared to act in obedience to the declared wishes of their constituencies.

*And whereas*, during the last and at the present session of the Legislature of this Province, petitions very numerous signed, and coming from every constituency in Nova Scotia, have earnestly prayed that this House would refuse its concurrence in the arrangement for the Confederation in question ; and further, that no measure involving a fundamental change in the institutions of this country should be attempted to be passed by any Government until the people were afforded the opportunity of giving a legitimate expression to their wishes respecting it at the polls ;

*And whereas*, with a single exception no petitions have ever been presented to this House, praying for the ratification of such, or any other scheme for Confederation ; and in the absence of a decided and distinct expression in favor thereof by a large majority of the people of this Province, it would, especially at the present crisis, be unwise and dangerous to the peace and general interests of the country to force the same upon the acceptance of its people ;

*Resolved therefore*, that it is the opinion and sense of this House that the Government and Legislature of this Province should be no party to the consummation of any scheme for the Confederation of the British North American Provinces and Colonies until an opportunity shall have been first afforded to the several constituencies of the Province at large to express their views and opinions thereon in a constitutional manner at the polls.

Which being seconded and put, and the House dividing thereon, there appeared for the amendment, eighteen ; against it, thirty-one.