

it could not be repealed. I therefore replied to Sir John A. Macdonald's Letter, and the correspondence only closed on the 26th of January last.

All through the autumn this correspondence was denounced by certain parties as treasonable and dangerous. I append it to this letter that you may read it and judge for yourselves. Those who denounced it, have wasted six months of life, and have got nothing to show but an infinite amount of boasting, and the two Despatches by which they have been rebuked by both the great parties in England, and in one of which they have been sternly told by a Cabinet, with John Bright in it, just what I have been telling them for half a year, that any further appeal to England will be utterly fruitless and vain.

I should be wanting in common justice if I did not acknowledge the infinite obligations which the country and myself are under to Mr. McLelan for the share he was kind enough to take in this negotiation. The results are now before you. In addition to the \$60,000 added to the Quebec scheme by the labours of the Delegates sent to England in 1866, we have now obtained for ten years a sum amounting, in round numbers, to \$160,000 per annum, making, since I put my hand to this work, \$220,000, or £55,000 a year recovered for Nova Scotia.

Before the ten years expire, should it appear that, from any cause, injustice is being done in money matters, the Canadians have now shown that they can be relied upon to reconsider the whole case, and to do substantial justice.

You will perceive by the Correspondence, that in August last the Premier offered me a seat in the Cabinet. That offer was renewed, and pressed upon me again in October. But I felt that it would be time enough to think of honors and emoluments for myself when I had tested the sincerity of his professions to do justice to my country, within the scope and boundary of his acknowledged powers of action. He did do justice. All that Mr. McLelan and I could fairly ask, on the basis we had laid down of perfect justice to the other Provinces, after an exhaustive sifting of the whole subject, was yielded, and then Sir John A. Macdonald, with some show of reason, pressed me again to take office. He said, we have now done justice so far as we could in monetary matters, and are prepared to deal fairly with Nova Scotia in all other Branches of the Public Service, as rapidly as we get the power; but I want your advice and assistance in order that this may be effectually done; and, what is more, I want some guarantee to give to Parliament that, when they have voted this money, the arrangement will not be repudiated by Nova Scotia. I felt the fairness of this argument. Our American Trade was of deep importance to our