

do not derive their power from the General Government, but receive appointments in the Queen's name, under the great seal. The Governments of Quebec and Ontario are carrying on matters pertaining to them respectively in the name of the Queen, and the Act of Union did not pretend to make any provision in regard to the Local Governments. He quoted from the Act with the object of showing the jealousy with which such interference had been guarded against. He understood his honourable friend to regard New Brunswick and Nova Scotia as mere appendages of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Holton said he held their officers to be officers of the Crown, and, if so, they could not sit here. Unless he was misinformed, one of the luminaries of the law appointed by his honourable friend as a Crown Prosecutor, refused to address his chief, Mr. Ouimet, by title of honourable, on the ground that he was not a Queen's officer, but appointed by the Lieut.-Governor. He (Mr. Holton) did not hold that ground. He maintained that these gentlemen were officers of the Crown, and because they are such within the territorial limits of the late Province of Canada, to which this Act applies, he held that they had no right to sit here. This question had no reference to Nova Scotia or New Brunswick at all, but had arisen out of a Canadian Statute, continued in force by the Imperial Act.

Hon. Mr. Cartier thought the honourable gentleman should have been content that he was not petitioned against, and have left his Chateaugay contest alone. His honourable friend contended that the heads of departments in Ontario and Quebec had no right to sit in this House. He (Mr. Cartier) said they held these offices provisionally the same as the heads of departments in this House. Everything was left provisional, in order to give an opportunity to the Parliament of Canada to legislate upon the matter. No head of department was named by the Union Act. They were acting as Ministers of the Government, and their salaries were to be the subject of legislation, the same law would apply to them as to heads of Departments in Ontario and Quebec. Mr. Rose was appointed Minister of Finance, and there was no law which could be brought to compel him to be re-elected by his constituents. Although Mr. Rose, as soon as he was appointed Minister of Finance, resigned his seat in the House so that his constituents should have the opportunity of re-electing him in that capacity, he was not obliged to do so by any Act of

Parliament. Mr. Cartier then read portions of the Act of Union, to prove that heads of Departments in Ontario and Quebec, had the right both by the spirit and letter of the law to hold seats in this Parliament.

Hon. Mr. Johnson thought the local and general governments were altogether distinct, and that one had no influence over the other. This being the case, a member of one of the Local Governments would not be disqualified from holding a seat in the Commons.

Mr. Smith did not interpret the statute in the same light as his friend, the member for Chateaugay. According to the letter of the law members of the Local Government were certainly entitled to a seat here. Until special provision is made, the law existing in Canada before the Union remains in force in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. According to his interpretation of that law members of the Local Government were not only entitled to a seat in the Commons, but were also entitled to the same salary which members of the Government had before the Union; namely, \$5,000 a year.

Mr. Morris thought that as a matter of policy an Act should be passed preventing members of the Local Government from holding seats in the Commons in future, but as the Act now stood they were eligible.

Hon. Mr. Howe said the member for Chateaugay was only discharging a public duty in bringing the subject before the House and country. He had put the case fairly before the Government, and left it to them to deal with it. It was in accordance with the spirit of the British constitution that there should not be any members of Parliament receiving emolument from or under the influence of the Crown. This principle was carried out in the legislatures of all the Provinces. It was a matter of very great importance. Ontario and Quebec, he understood, sent twenty members to the Commons, who also held seats in their respective Local Legislatures. If the principle is admitted to be correct, what is to prevent Nova Scotia and New Brunswick sending other twenty from their legislatures. Then when Prince Edward Island and British Columbia were added to Confederation, the number would go on increasing almost *ad infinitum*. It is a matter which should be dealt with. If in the haste with which this Dominion Act had been constructed it had been overlooked, it is the duty of the Gov-