

feated by a majority of two hundred or more, and Johnstone and Tupper came into power in 1863. They had every member of the House except seventeen.

At the first session of Parliament a bill was put through the House creating a Judge in Equity. It was first put through making him Chief Justice in Equity, but it was amended in the Legislative Council, making the office only that of Judge. It was designed to create a place for Mr. Johnstone, who at this time was advanced in years, and the consequence was that at the conclusion of the session of 1864 Johnstone was appointed to the position, and Charles Tupper became Premier of Nova Scotia.

At that time Dr. Tupper introduced and carried a bill for making education compulsory. Hitherto the teachers had obtained their support only by collecting so much from each person who was sending pupils to the school. Dr. Tupper proposed to compel every person to pay a tax to the schools in the district in which they were placed. This was perfectly sound legislation and we had held off long enough in this Province, and Adam G. Archibald, who was the leader of the Liberal party, had really supported the measure, but it created great dissatisfaction in the country and was one of the means likely to involve the Government in defeat at the next election.

But Dr. Tupper projected another matter, which was far-reaching in its consequences and constituted the main object of the elections in 1867. He proposed that a conference should be held of the Premiers and various members of Government of the three Maritime Provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, which was held at Charlottetown. They had proceeded but a short time in the consideration of the matter when it became evident that it was impossible to agree to any plan at the

time, for the simple reason that Prince Edward Island refused to embrace any system of government that did not make Charlottetown the capital of the whole, and they were about to break up without accomplishing anything when they received notice that a deputation from the Government of Canada would meet them and make propositions for a larger union. Sir John Macdonald, Sir George Cartier, Hon. George Brown and others came to Charlottetown and proposed a scheme for a larger union. The Government of Canada was in reality a coalition, composed of the leaders of both parties, which had been formed for the purpose of devising a scheme by which government could be carried on in Canada successfully without continual dissensions, and George Brown was exceedingly active in propounding a policy of union of all the colonies in British America and forming a Federal Government which would embrace them all. After having outlined his policy as successfully as he could, he induced the three Provinces concerned and also Newfoundland to send delegates to Quebec for the purpose of forming a Federal Government, and subsequently they met in Quebec, in October, and framed an Act for the union of the several Provinces.

It happened that New Brunswick was to have an election immediately. It had been agreed by all the delegates present that the terms of the scheme should not be made known until the legislatures of the several Provinces met, but, as an election was to be held in New Brunswick, the nature of the compact became known, and it was submitted then, in reality, to the electors of New Brunswick, with the result that the Government of Hon. S. L. Tilley and Hon. Peter Mitchell was completely wiped out, and a Government, of which Albert J. Smith was the leader, was called into existence, and arrangements were