

and excite no sectional feelings. Let the honourable member for Halifax, and other gentlemen agree to do justice to Cape Breton, and he would not be troubled with the appeals of her representatives in her behalf; but until this was done, they would never cease to raise their voices in assertion of her claims.

Mr. TOBIN said that if there was any country in the world that was enjoying remarkable prosperity it was Nova Scotia, including Cape Breton. He did not believe that there was any reason to say that any part of the Province had been unfairly treated, and thought that the whole difficulty had arisen from the fact of there being no member from the Island of Cape Breton in the Government.

Mr. BOURINOT denied emphatically that such were the motives that influenced the members from Cape Breton.

Mr. TOBIN said that the prosperity of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton was identical, and hoped no sectional jealousies would be excited. He was sure that any just claims Cape Breton had would, when urged, be acceded to, and that whenever an opportunity offered she would be represented in the Government.

Mr. S. MACDONNELL said that the assertion of the hon. gentleman only originated, as he admitted, from his imagination, and not from any facts within his knowledge. He did not think that there was any such spirit actuating the members from the island, and he believed that if they wished to be represented in the Government, a vacancy would soon be made. He did not approve of gentlemen making such a wholesale onslaught upon Cape Breton, because her representatives were urging her claims. As far as he was concerned, nobody could say he had ever been found doing more than his duty in the matter. If, when the estimates came down, it was found Cape Breton was not fairly dealt with, then there would be a proper occasion to go at length into the discussion of her claims.

Mr. C. J. CAMPBELL said he did not think that the Government occupied such an enviable position that any man should be desirous of being connected with it. He alluded to the unsatisfactory condition of the main thoroughfare in Cape Breton, and went on to express a wish that her representatives would continue to urge her claims to more consideration than she had hitherto received.

Mr. KILLAM said that the exhibition which had just been made would give some idea of the scenes that would continually occur in the General Parliament if the scheme of Confederation were carried out.

Hon. PROV. SEC. replied that he would only say, that if the voice of our 19 members in the General Parliament would be as potent as those of the Cape Breton representatives were now in the Assembly of Nova Scotia, he was perfectly satisfied with the position and influence this Province would have in the event of Confederation.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Hon. Mr. SHANNON presented a petition from the inhabitants of Upper Prospect, asking for the establishment of a semi-weekly mail.

Mr. D. FRASER presented a petition from Pictou in reference to a light.

Mr. JOST presented a petition, and a bill in accordance with the prayer thereof, to change

the name of certain places in the county of Lunenburg; also, a bill to legalize assessment in the county of Lunenburg.

The House then adjourned until 3 o'clock the next day.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd. Feb.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

PETITIONS, &c.

Hon. PROV. SEC., laid on the table correspondence relative to the Lieutenant Governor's cruise last summer to the Eastward.

Mr. BLANCHARD presented a petition from Long Point, Inverness, against the School Act.

Hon. J. MCKINNON presented 21 petitions, signed by 1600 persons in the county of Antigonishe against the scheme of Confederation.

Mr. TOBIN presented the petition of the Mac Gold Company complaining of injustice in reference to the forfeiture of certain claims; referred to Committee on Mines and Minerals.

Mr. CALDWELL presented a petition from Cape Breton against Confederation.

Mr. J. MCKINNON presented four petitions from Antigonishe on the subject of the School Act. Also 2 petitions numerously signed, by persons in Antigonishe, Guysboro, and Arianchat, respecting a road that is in contemplation between Port Mulgrave and Tracadie.

Mr. COWIE presented a petition from Mill Village, asking for the repeal of the present School Law.

Mr. ROSS presented a petition from St. Ann's against Union.

Mr. MILLER presented the petition of 600 inhabitants of Isle Madame, against the proposed Union.

Mr. BLANCHARD introduced a bill to incorporate the Central Mining Company.

Mr. CHURCHILL presented the petition of P. Cunningham and others of Windsor, and a bill in accordance with the prayer thereof, in reference to the incorporation of the Commercial Bank.

Mr. BILL presented a petition, largely signed by inhabitants of Kings, against the School Law. He stated that this made the seventh petition he had presented, and that he would not take any action on the subject until the bill the Government had in contemplation was before the House.

Mr. JOHN CAMPBELL presented a petition from Benjamin Johnston praying for supplies for a bridge; another for a road to improve the Milton River; and a third for repairs on a house and barn, on the road between Annapolis and Queen's county.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Hon. FIN. SEC. laid on the table, by command of His Excellency, the annual trade returns, together with the public accounts connected therewith, and then went on to give the following digest of their contents:

In connection with these returns, I may say at the outset, I have great pleasure in being able to congratulate the house and country on the very great increase of trade during the past year to which these papers refer. Perhaps at no time in the previous history of the province has the same rapid development in every branch of commerce been exhibited. Not only has our natural resources been developed in every section of the country—not only do we see a great improvement in our coal and gold mines, but all our branches of