

it for the sake of getting there (laughter). His honourable colleague from New Brunswick, the Minister of Customs, and himself, had been in Parliament together some seventeen years, and until the question of Confederation came up had been opposed to each other. He had often heard that honourable gentleman eulogise this splendid animal—see he would say—his small and well pointed ears—look at his full clear eyes, and see what withers—what broad loins for strength—and then look at his hocks and his pasterns, why Fanny Elster couldn't show such heels—hasn't he a slashing trot—and what a lope in his canter—isn't he a splendid animal? And when he says to his honourable friend, "Well then, why don't you mount and ride?" What was his answer? "So I would but he kicks."—(laughter)—and so it always was. He would like to ask the honourable gentleman, the Member for Cornwall, who was sitting over in what might be called the Temple of Janus, but which in this Augustan age of Canadian politics was shut for the first time, whose occupant generally had one eye looking at the opposition behind, and the other peering over into the Government pasture, whether he had ever known a Canadian politician use this animal except as a hack. The fact was, the public had lost all confidence in the word. What the people did want was justice to public servants—a fair day's pay for a fair day's work—pay your public men what their abilities, their integrity, and their industry would command in the other pursuits of life. You want the first men for that public service, let your compensation be such as would secure them, but get rid of the drones that hang around the public departments. Burke had laid it down somewhere—
that the statesman who based the foundation of his country's greatness on the possession of extraordinary virtues, would find its superstructure raised in extravagance and corruption.

We must legislate for men as we find them, liable to temptation, to folly—with faults and vices. We can't expect them to be angels. The honourable member from Hants referred to the Governor-General's salary as being far larger than that of the President of the United States, but was it now well known that while the salary was only \$24,000 a year nominally, it was actually \$100,000. What was the picture presented in the United States at this very moment? The wife of the late President offering for sale the most costly articles, and stating over her own handwriting in the public prints, that those presents had been given by the supporters of the Administration, and others, to obtain places

[Mr. Gray (Saint John)]

of emolument, and profit and contracts for themselves or the members of their families, or friends. Better give the Governor-General twice the salary than see the public offices of the country bartered and sold by his household or his ministers in such shameless corruption. Such a system demoralises the whole country. Far better to pay your public men well—exact a rigid discharge of their duties, discountenance corruption, and preserve the character of the country. He trusted that in the consideration of all these questions, they would be regarded in the light of a broad, ample and generous patriotism, that they would approach them with such a spirit. A lofty patriotism rising above all sectional interests and all personal considerations, would be like the serpent raised by the Jewish lawgiver in the wilderness, not only the emblem of your country's wisdom, but the emblem of your country's salvation. Look upon that and live, act upon this, and be saved. He trusted, moreover, the Government would bring down those measures with the least possible delay in order that those people at a distance, who were represented by the honourable members from the Maritime Provinces, might have the opportunity of considering them. They had no fear of the result; no apprehension that injustice would be done them by their fellow-countrymen of Canada. They had come here in the fullest confidence that their interests were safe, and he trusted and believed that in their deliberations in this House they would receive at the hands of the representatives in the Canadian Provinces liberal, generous, and hearty assistance. (Applause.) And we believe that the honourable member for Hants (Mr. Howe) after having discharged his duty in protesting against the manner in which the Union had been accomplished, would be found one of the firmest pillars of the Dominion. (Cheers.)

Mr. A. G. Jones said if there had not been a statement that there would be no amendments, he would have simply recorded his vote. He came here in obedience to an Imperial statute, and would support good measures and oppose bad, without regard to either party in the House. He was not aware that there was an American or Fenian sympathiser in Nova Scotia, and yet because his party had endeavoured in a constitutional manner to oppose the Union, they had been charged with disloyalty by the honourable member for Cumberland. He remembered the time when the whole revenue has been placed at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief for the defence of Canada if needed.