

indirectly, a disunion, too. The late Province of Canada had to be divided into two Provinces; and while on the one hand the Dominion assumes, in one sense, of course, the whole of the old debt of the Province of Canada, as far as liability to creditors is concerned, on the other hand, in the other sense—as regards these two Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, separately considered—it only assumes their debt to a certain degree. It assumes relatively to them, debt to the amount of \$62,500,000, and is entitled to look to them conjointly for all excess of obligation over that amount. But that very excess, I need hardly say, is a matter of old controversy, was matter of controversy when the constitution was adopted, and on the 1st July last, and is unsettled now. It has got to be settled as a beginning; and afterwards Quebec and Ontario have to divide their relative shares between them. An unascertained amount has to be divided by a process of arbitration; according to a rule which has not yet been stated, which is left to the consideration of the arbitrators, or at least to a great extent. Nor is that all: some of the assets of the old Province of Canada fall to the Dominion; some, no doubt, separately to Quebec and Ontario: some—those mentioned in the 4th schedule of the British North American Act, conjointly to Quebec and Ontario. Every Province has to settle with the Dominion the question as to what debt, if any, falls to its share of liability; and what are its assets, and what are those of the Dominion. Every Province has, moreover, to settle with the Dominion what sources of revenue in detail belong to it, and what to the Dominion, and what classes of employees in the revenue service are chargeable to it and to the Dominion respectively. But we, besides all this, have still another duty to perform—to make a division with Ontario. The surplus of debt and the joint assets have to be so divided. Then certain revenue sources and revenue services have to be divided; and an amount of complexity of negotiation and arrangement is likely to result, which it is difficult for any one who has not thought of it carefully to realise thoroughly. These joint assets of Ontario and Quebec include the Upper Canada Building Fund, Lunatic Asylums, Normal School, Court Houses of Aylmer, Montreal and Kamouraska, in Lower Canada, Law Society of Upper Canada, Montreal Turnpike Trust, University Permanent Fund, Royal Institution, Consolidated Municipal Funds of Upper and Lower Canada, Agricultural Society of Upper Canada, Lower Canada Legislative Grant, Quebec Fire Loan, Temiscouata Advance Account, Quebec Turnpike Trust, Education East, Building and Jury Fund of Lower Canada, Municipalities' Fund, and Lower Canada Superior Education Income Fund. Now, as you may readily see, about half of those assets may be said to belong naturally to Quebec, and the other half to Ontario; but by the law they are joint property, and have to be disposed of in connection with this division of the Canada debt. The amount of this debt being uncertain, the amount, nature, value and position of those assets being equally so, the whole has, nevertheless, to be settled before we can say what are the debts that press on Quebec, and what are the means the Union Act places at her disposal to meet them. But apart from that question, a good many of the services are more or less joint between the Dominion and the Province. I will mention two illustrations. The Collector of Inland Revenue in the Province of Quebec is an old servant of the Province of Canada. He has duties to perform in reference to the excise, the collection of licenses, and certain other sources of revenue. That excise is undoubtedly the property of the