

should protect her Colonies. Therefore, while they are loyal, no necessity exists why we should make such sacrifices as is proposed. And if the necessity be not apparent the people will not submit to them.

I come now to another branch of the subject—the nature of the representation. We are to have local governments, and a General Government over all. In that General Government, Nova Scotia is to have a representation of 19 out of 194. Now the Provincial Secretary tells us that this is as much as we have any right to expect according to our population, and he stated that if these terms were not just, we had only the delegates to blame. I contend, in view of the geographical position of Nova Scotia—800 miles away from the capital, and almost an island—that the principle of representation by population was not at all sufficient to do her justice. You don't give to the city of Halifax a representation proportioned to the population, because you feel by the Parliament meeting here, influences can be brought to bear upon it that compensate for a less representation. As you recede from the place of the meeting of Parliament, representation should increase in order to give a balance of influence. The city of London, with a population of nearly 3,000,000—one-tenth of the Empire—has only 16 representatives. If you adopted the principle in question, she ought to have one-tenth of the whole number in Parliament. The reason why it is not carried out, is the Parliament meets there, and that the influence given to the city thereby, is sufficient for her. On examination of a table prepared in 1859, I find that as you recede from the place of meeting of Parliament—the proportion of representatives of counties to the population increases. The central counties of Middlesex, Surrey and Kent (exclusive of London) with a population of 3,185,424 have 43 members; one to every 74,074 of the population; in the extreme North, Cumberland, Northumberland, and Durham, with a population of 890,059, have 29 members; one to 30,691 of population. On the extreme South, Cornwall, Devon, and Dorset, having a population of 1,106,863, returns 50 members; one to 22,137 of population; on the extreme West, Anglesea, Carnarvon, and Denbigh have 237,780 population and 7 members. And so should there be an increase here, because the great distance from Ottawa will prevent us from exercising any influence upon the Government there, other than is given us by our representation. The influences of the interests of a country like ours (almost an island) are necessarily confined within her lines, and when the legislation for our interests is placed in a Parliament beyond our borders we should have an increase of numbers in representation to compensate for the entire want of local influences.

But the Provincial Secretary tells us that we have a large representation in the Legislative Council, which fully compensates us for

the want of representation in the Assembly. Mr. George Brown, arguing that question, said that the complaint had been made that they had given us too large a representation in the Upper House; but he says “*in the Lower House, Canada shall hold the purse strings.*” You will further remember that all the Lower Provinces combined have only 24 members in the Legislative Council, whilst united Canada has 48. But whatever differences of opinion may have hitherto existed between Upper and Lower Canada, there is no doubt you will find them as one when their interests come in collision with those of the Lower Provinces. When a man and wife quarrel, and a third party steps in, they both unite against him. Upper and Lower Canada may have disputes at times too, but whenever the Lower Provinces come in, they will unite as one Province against us.

The Provincial Secretary tells us that if our Representatives band together, they can exercise an influence which will make them sufficiently felt in the Canadian Parliament, and referred in illustration of his argument to the influence that the members of Cape Breton exercise here; but he did not tell us that these form a much larger proportion to the whole number in this House than would the Representatives from Nova Scotia exhibit in a Parliament of 194 at Ottawa. But suppose they did band together to make their influence felt in that Parliament. Now, I ask the hon. Prov. Sec'y. to consider the position in which he places this Province and her Representatives. I cannot conceive a more degraded, a more humiliating position than the Representatives of a spirited people compelled to forego their political opinions—their conscientious convictions on all public questions, in order to obtain for their people a consideration in the distribution of the funds. But even supposing our 19 Representatives could so far forget themselves as to turn political hucksters, and offer to sell themselves, body and soul, they will never obtain more than a few pickings from the public chest, which we shall do more than our share in filling. Under any circumstances, however humiliating, we shall be powerless to enforce a just consideration of interests.

There is a beautiful work of art, representing two hounds chained together by the neck—one is large and powerful, looking down with contempt and indifference upon his lesser companion, who is as beautiful in the formation of limb, apparently as swift to follow the game, and as keen of scent as the other, yet crouches, overawed and helpless. Often as I have looked upon that work, I have felt an impulse rising within me to strike the chain from the little fellow's neck, and let him go free. But ever since this Confederation scheme has been published—every time I have looked upon a miniature copy of that work, I have thought of Confederation. I have seen in it Nova Scotia, bound and chained by