

the city of Quebec. Of the seven Provinces forming the Confederation, five were represented and I am happy to declare that the most cordial harmony constantly prevailed among the delegates. The understanding was complete ; all the resolutions relating to the proposed amendments to the Constitution were unanimously passed. These resolutions were ratified by large majorities in the Legislative Assemblies of Ontario and Nova Scotia and almost unanimously by that of New Brunswick ; they will be ratified by the Legislative Assembly of Quebec and by the Legislature of Manitoba, so that we can affirm without fear of contradiction that the labors of the Conference are approved by the immense majority of the Canadian people. The total population of Canada in 4,324,810 souls ; now, the five Provinces whose delegates have accepted the resolutions of the Conference, represent 4,110,014 of that total.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Before entering into details concerning the labors of the Conference, permit me to call your attention to one fact which deserves to be noted.

When the National party was founded, it was contended that its existence would arouse against the Province of Quebec religious and national prejudices throughout the other parts of the Confederation ; we were taunted with isolating our Province and thus exposing it to the loss of all the influence, which it had and should have under the political system governing us since 1867.

Well, gentlemen, I would now ask you : what about this isolation of the Province of Quebec ? where is it to be seen ? where are those religious and national prejudices which were to arise in the other Provinces from the formation of our National Party ? Look at the labors of the Quebec Conference, examine its results and tell me, was there ever a time when our Province was more respected by the other sections of the Confederation ? Cast your eyes over the list of delegates who attended the Conference, called by the National Government of Quebec, and, tell me if the formation of the party which carried that Government into power really had as a result to arouse against us in the other provinces prejudices of race or religion ? Tell me has our Province ever enjoyed greater prestige, more influence ? We proclaimed our rights as men of spirit, and our conduct has been