

eighty of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with a constitution similar in principle to that of the Mother Country. Let me notice a few of the more important features of that constitution:

(1) We accepted the federal principle upon which the American Republic was founded. That brings us back again to the Continental Congress of 1774, where your constitution was born, and accentuates a statement already made that that Congress was also the birthplace of the Dominion of Canada. That Congress proposed a federation for defensive purposes, if need be, and our constitution is also a federation. But our constitution is remarkable not for the extent to which it conforms to its American progenitor, but rather for the reverse, arising out of the desire to make the cleavage between Canada and the United States as distinct as possible. Of course it was necessary that we should retain our connection with the Imperial Government by accepting as our chief executive officer a Governor-General appointed by the King. If we elected our Governor-General as you elect your President, then we would have no organic connection with the Mother Country, and consequently would be a Republic as you are.

(2) Our highest legislative body consists of a House of Commons and a Senate, and is known as the Parliament of Canada. Your highest legislative body consists of a House of Representatives and a Senate, and is known as the United States Congress. We have adhered as closely as circumstances would admit to British nomenclature, and no doubt for a purpose.

(3) The Executive Council of Canada is constituted on the British principle, that is to say, it can hold office so long as it commands a majority in Parliament. Your Executive holds office during the pleasure of the President, whether the party it represents has a majority in either House or not.

(4) We are styled the Dominion of Canada, not the Commonwealth, and the various districts of which the Dominion is composed are called Provinces, not States. The fathers of Canadian Confederation were evidently inclined to reject your nomenclature in these respects also.

(5) In order to strengthen the Central Government of the Dominion it was distinctly provided that any residuum of administrative power, not vested in the provinces, should remain in the Central Government. This doctrine is the reverse of that so strongly advocated by Calhoun and Henry Clay fifty years ago as the true basis of the United States Government. The