

consider the consequent complaints, but they could not be held responsible for the action of the Imperial Government, into which they could bring no enquiry capable of carrying redress.

Mr. McDonald (Antigonish) replied at considerable length, contending that this House was the proper tribunal where complaint should be made and redress obtained. The honourable member for Guysborough had once held very strong opinions of the invalidity of any Imperial statute from which the people had withheld their consent and to which they had denied their sympathies. It would not be seen how far he maintained the principles of his former speeches. It had been argued that Nova Scotia had received greater amounts than had been paid since Confederation. If so, it had only been in the matter of salaries and the creation of offices thrust upon her unwillingly. If this motion was voted down, the injustice would yet appear.

Mr. Stewart Campbell thought the issue should be left to the Imperial decision. This House had no power to redress the grievances of Nova Scotia. It was not a local question; its settlement would affect for weal or woe the other Provinces. The repealers of Nova Scotia were a mere party of grumblers. He said the members of Halifax had pledged themselves during the election campaign that if elected to the Commons of Canada, they would do everything in their power towards the maintenance of British interests. He wished to ask his co-representatives from Nova Scotia, if they were to give servile obedience to the wishes of their constituents, how it happened that they were here in violation of solemn resolutions requiring them not to proceed to Ottawa? The member for Antigonish had referred to the tariff. He supposed the honourable member would have been glad if no amendment had been made to the tariff. He ought to admit, however, that in making that amendment, the Government and this Legislature had given a substantial proof of their good will to Nova Scotia. The remission of tonnage dues he was sure would be received in Nova Scotia as a boon to be very gratefully accepted. He regretted very much one portion of the speech of the member for Lunenburg that the refusal of repeal would endanger the peace and destroy the loyalty of Nova Scotia. He protested against that statement as a libel on the Province of Nova Scotia. Were it not for a portion of the press of that country, he was satisfied we

[Mr. Cartier (Montreal East).]

would not have heard a tithe of the murmuring which had proceeded from that Province. If the press and the sixteen representatives here from Nova Scotia had taken a more moderate stand, and had urged the people to accept the Union, he believed there would have been little of that murmuring and excited feeling of which so much had been said. What would be the effect of repeal? There were 72 gentlemen who had been appointed Senators, and it would become necessary for the Queen to go almost on bended knees to these gentlemen, and tell them she had committed a mistake in appointing them. The Senate must be broken up, and they must go home. He denied that he had ever asserted that it was unconstitutional for the Nova Scotia House of Assembly to ask for the Union Act or for the Imperial Parliament to pass it. He did not concur in the resolution passed by the Nova Scotia House, but as to their right to pass it he never had a doubt. He then alluded to the handsome manner in which the people of this portion of the Dominion had responded to the call on behalf of the suffering fishermen of Nova Scotia. He blushed for the references which had been made to this in the press of Nova Scotia, and he must hold the gentlemen who were now pushing these resolutions responsible for the tone of these references. He referred to the last speech delivered by Mr. McGee, and regretted that the sentiments he then expressed as his last sacred legacy to his country had not found a better lodgment in the minds of the gentlemen from Nova Scotia. He proceeded then to comment on the resolutions. As to the 1st he remarked that the system of Government which had existed in Nova Scotia previous to 1867 was Responsible Government, the same as she now enjoyed. Having touched briefly on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th, he said with regard to the 5th resolution, that the leading assertion it contained, that a Government to be successful must rest on the confidence of the people, subject to it was a truism, but it must be remembered that the people subject to this Government were the people of the Dominion generally and not of Nova Scotia exclusively. In reference to another part of the resolution, he repeated that the consent of the people of Nova Scotia to the Union had been constitutionally given. He held moreover that at this moment nine-tenths of the intelligence of Nova Scotia was in favour of the Union. He believed this was the last we would hear of the repeal movement in this Legislature. It had been brought