

in the event of a change of administration to frustrate the policy of the party to which it was opposed. Such action would clearly be in violation of the object for which the second chamber was established, and would give reasonable ground for the contention that being useless or worse than useless, the sooner it was abolished the better. To appointments for life the further objection may be urged that men so chosen are apt to cling to their office when by physical or mental infirmity they are no longer capable of properly discharging their duty, and thereby bring the whole body into contempt.

To the principle of popular election, no matter how carefully guarded, and however limited the franchise, the great objection exists that such a body being elective, and directly representing the people, would claim equal authority with the more popular assembly. It would be liable to the same influences, and it would be composed of the same class of men, equally desirous to catch the breeze of popular opinion, and equally anxious to avoid any course, no matter how necessary in the public interest, which might run counter to the sentiment of the moment. From such a body would be excluded the very class of men of whom it ought to be composed, for the men referred to in the preceding part of this article as those best qualified for the duties of the second chamber are precisely the men who would be least inclined to enter the stormy arena of popular election, who would not, and probably could not, give the time and attention necessary for the cultivation of the arts which are required for the successful politician, and who, above all, would not make themselves the slaves of the party machine, nor bow to the dictation of the party whip. Recent events in the United States shew most clearly how the Senate of that country, a body designed to exercise most important functions, and which, for a long time, by its independence, and the character of its members, commanded universal respect, has lost those distinguished characteristics, and has surpassed the popular chamber in its subserviency to clamour, and its yielding to corrupt and degrading influences.

These objections to an elective body were urged with great force in the pre-Confederation debates, and notably by Hon. George Brown, the result being that the preference was given to the principle of nomination by the Crown.

Owing to recent events the Senate has been attacked in no measured terms, and every argument which can be urged against