

eral party, and Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir George E. Cartier and Sir E. P. Taché representing the Conservative party. The delegation from Nova Scotia consisted of three supporters of the Government of which I was the head, together with the leader of the Opposition in the legislative council and the leader of the Opposition in the House of Assembly, who had been named by me as delegates to represent Nova Scotia. The same took place in the province of New Brunswick. The delegation was composed of members of the Liberal and Conservative parties, and Sir Oliver Mowat was almost the only person who raised the question of an elective Senate. It was by common consent of the delegates, supported in the strongest manner by the late Hon. George Brown, that the policy of having a Senate nominated for life by the Crown was adopted. Connected with that policy was the understanding that in the first appointments to the Senate due regard should be had to a fair division between the Liberal and Conservative parties. That was done. The gentlemen nominated for the position of senators were selected from the old legislative councils to a very large extent, if not to the entire extent, in Canada, and they were nominated so as to represent fairly the two parties. The same thing was done in the province of Nova Scotia. Before a single appointment was offered to any Conservative, one-half of the senatorships to which the province of Nova Scotia was entitled were offered to leading gentlemen in the old legislative council of that province who were Liberals; and no appointment was made until they had the opportunity of accepting or declining it. So the hon. gentleman is quite right, so far as the first appointments to the Senate were concerned; but he is entirely wrong in supposing that there was ever contemplated any limitation to the power of the Crown in regard to appointments to the Senate after the question of these original members had been disposed of. I am not able to say with absolute certainty, but I think my hon. friend will agree with me that, to a very large extent within the last eighteen years, there were no members of the old legislative council who had not been brought into the Senate or who were left unprovided for. I think I am safe in saying that. I say emphatically that there was no understanding, which the hon. gentleman charges as a breach of faith on the part of the government of which I had the honour of being a member. I will read what Sir John Macdonald said in the statement the hon. gentleman quoted. He said:

He (Sir John) wrote a name, choosing from his own party, and they selected their man, and the consequence was twelve Reformers and twelve Conservatives were elected to sit in that Chamber, and no one knew better than his hon. friend that it was a fair understanding that the claims of members of the legislative council of Old Can-

ada to seats in the Senate should be considered as vacancies might take place, and that had been faithfully carried out.

That, instead of supporting the statement of the hon. gentleman, that we had violated the principle which had been established in regard to the Senate, entirely disproves it, because it shows that that principle was confined to the existing members of the old legislative council of Canada, and was faithfully carried out. That statement was made by Sir John Macdonald in 1872. The hon. gentleman knows that a year afterwards the power to appoint to the Senate passed from the hands of Sir John Macdonald to the hands of Mr. Mackenzie, and I have yet to learn that Mr. Mackenzie was in any way limited in regard to filling any vacancies in the Senate by anything except the general principle that they were to be appointed by the Crown, and for life.

Now, I do not intend to take up more time on this point. But I see by the newspapers that the Hon. Mr. Power has been discussing questions in relation to myself, and he has placed before the public the following statement:—

There was an election in Nova Scotia in 1859, and the Conservative government, which had been in power, were defeated in that election, as happened in the election which took place in 1896. The government did not accept their defeat, but called upon the Representative of Her Majesty, Lord Mulgrave, to forthwith dissolve the House which had just been elected. They found that they were in a minority of four, and they claimed that there had been certain irregularities in the elections of some members and asked that the House should be dissolved. The Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia very naturally and properly declined to do that. He said that that was not his business—that the trial of those elections was a matter for the House and its committees. This happened in the beginning of the year 1860—this refusal to dissolve. The House met in 1860, and the government were defeated, and as the governor would not give them a dissolution, they had to resign. They resigned, I think, about January, or February, 1860, and they sent a very strong memorial to the Duke of Newcastle in connection with the Lieutenant-Governor's conduct. The action of the Lieutenant-Governor met with the cordial endorsement of the Duke of Newcastle; and after all this had taken place, on the 29th October, 1860, months after the whole thing had been disposed of by the Duke of Newcastle, the gentleman who now leads the Opposition in the House of Commons addressed a long letter to that nobleman, from which I propose to quote to the House two or three extracts. Speaking of the refusal of Lord Mulgrave to dissolve, this gentleman said to the Duke of Newcastle:

"A decision has been made which cannot fail to induce, in these colonies, the impression that what has been supposed to be self-government, is but a delusion and a snare."

A little further on he said:

"The people of this province have been content, my lord, to pay a salary of fifteen thousand dollars a year to a governor sent from England, besides a large additional sum to keep up his establishment; while the State of Maine, with twice our population, has the privilege of electing