

dence in the policy of both the late and present Governments, of which he had been a member, by giving them their support, and so far as the Banks are concerned the last election had given conclusive proof that there was no feeling then against the Government on their account. With respect to the Bank failure, it was a fact that the Bank of Upper Canada had gone down before the Currency Act came in question. With regard to the Commercial Bank we had the statement of its President that its currency, the only thing affected by the Government policy was actually larger when it failed than when the Act came into force. We had also evidence no less positive that the Bank had locked up nearly half its capital in one speculation; that other investments of a character not immediately convertible had reduced its means, but these transactions had nothing at all to do with the policy of the Government. It might also be acknowledged that the suspension of a large commercial house in Hamilton, the head of which was known and respected by all (hear, hear), who, as a politician, and a merchant, was one of the landmarks of his country, and for whose misfortune they all felt a great deal of sympathy (hear, hear), had contributed to shake the confidence of depositors in the Commercial Bank, because it was generally understood that the house in question had had large transactions with the Bank. With respect to the establishment of an agency of the Bank of Montreal in the Lower Provinces, it was perfectly true that this had been done, but to say that this had interfered in any way with the currency of the Province was utter nonsense. The Bank of Montreal did the Government business in the greater part of the Dominion, and it was natural that they should extend an agency of that institution, to do the public business in the Maritime Provinces. The Government made its disbursements in these provinces with drafts on the agency of the Bank of Montreal, payable in gold, or the equivalent of gold, and the money paid out had exceeded the amount received. The policy of the Government had been equally just to all parts of the Dominion; it had not operated to the injury of Ontario, nor would it prove injurious to the interests of the Maritime Provinces (hear, hear).

A conversation here took place between the late Finance Minister and the member for Hamilton in reference to the opinion of Ontario.

Hon. Dr. Tupper said it would not be respectful to his friends opposite if he did not

[Mr. Galt (Sherbrooke)]

say a few words in reference to the position which they assumed, that Nova Scotia was really opposed to Confederation. He had stated that his opponents had not polled half the votes of the Province, and that remained uncontradicted. He (Dr. T.) had stated that his honourable friend had done more to educate the people of B.N.A. up to Union than any other. His honourable friend knew that the sentiment of Union had always been favoured by the public sentiment of Nova Scotia. The Union party had been thoroughly beaten, but they would have been beaten had that question had no existence. His honourable friend had not come forward to oppose the measure at its inception, but only when his position as an officer of the British Government was lost. The attitude of Halifax, the metropolitan city, containing the wealth and influence, was used to send broadcast the warning that if Confederation was carried, the usury laws would be swept away, and every borrower would suffer. His friend opposite had held up Canada and Canadians to the execration of Nova Scotians. He was sorry to find that the spectacle of 100,000 men in arms in the United States had completely changed the patriotic sentiments of his honourable friend. The movement in Nova Scotia, against Union was not spontaneous, but was manufactured in Halifax. He (Dr. T.) was prepared to prove that the late change of the franchise disfranchised 1,000 voters, two-thirds of whom were his own, and still he was returned; many of his political opponents coming to his aid for the purpose of carrying Union. He deprecated the manner in which local affairs had been introduced into this House by the honourable member of Hants. The learned gentleman instanced the manner in which the uniformity of a postal system would be a great benefit to Nova Scotians, as well as Canadians. He regretted the absence of the Secretary for the Provinces, and went on to describe the manner in which constituencies were carried against Union by small majorities, and showed that a reaction had already been begun. His honourable friend had stated last night that he had never advocated a political move with Canada, but he (Dr. T.) would read extracts from the honourable gentleman's own paper, edited by himself, which thoroughly disproved the position taken by the honourable gentleman. If the sentiments he had read were not those of his honourable friend, he had certainly been most remiss in repudiating them. They were the outline of the present Constitution, and from 1838 until very recently the member for Hants had not disclaimed his responsibility