

"I desire, therefore, to correct the error on the Journal so that the precedent shall not be understood as having any relation to the 54th Clause of the Constitutional Act, 1867."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker's decision as above be entered upon the Journals of this House.

The House resumed the consideration of the Amendment proposed to be made on Thursday last, to the proposed Amendment to the Question, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, representing that an equitable and satisfactory division of the surplus debt of the late Province of *Canada*, between the Provinces of *Quebec* and *Ontario* is not likely to be effected in the manner provided by the *British North America Act*, 1867, and that the difficulties which beset the question have been greatly aggravated by the award rendered by the Arbitrators appointed by the Dominion Government and by the Government of *Ontario* in the absence of any Arbitrator for the Province of *Quebec*, which is regarded by the Government and the people of *Quebec* as illegal and unjust, and praying that Her Majesty be pleased to recommend the passing of an Act by the Imperial Parliament so amending the *British North America Act* as to authorize the Parliament of *Canada* to deal by Legislative enactment with all questions connected with the said surplus debt; and which Amendment was That all the words after "That" to the end of the Question, be left out, and that the words "the validity of the award rendered by the Arbitrators appointed by the Dominion Government and by the Government of *Ontario* in the absence of any Arbitrator for the Province of *Quebec*, being contested by the Province of *Quebec*; and the Government of *Canada* having come to the conclusion not to act on such award until such validity shall have been determined by a competent judicial tribunal, this House refrains from expressing an opinion on the award so rendered;" inserted instead thereof; and which Amendment to the said proposed Amendment was, that the words "the validity of the award rendered by the Arbitrators appointed by the Dominion Government and by the Government of *Ontario* in the absence of any Arbitrator for the Province of *Quebec*, being contested by the Province of *Quebec*; and the Government of *Canada* having come to the conclusion not to act on such award until its validity shall have been determined by a competent judicial tribunal, this House refrains from expressing an opinion on the award so rendered" be left out, and the words "this House regrets that His Excellency the Governor General has not been advised to recommend to this House to adopt an Address to Her Majesty, the Queen, representing that the division between the Province of *Ontario* and the Province of *Quebec*, of the surplus of the debt of the former Province of *Canada*, over and above the sum of \$62,500,000 assigned to the Dominion of *Canada* by the *British North America Act*, presents great difficulties which it has not hitherto been possible to overcome in a satisfactory manner; that the difficulties resulting as well from the uncertainty as to the amount of the debt to be divided as from the absence of an acceptable base for the making of such division, and what of the assets remaining in common to those two Provinces, threaten to give rise to serious embarrassment, and, that for the avoidance of such difficulties, the debt of the former Province of *Canada* should be assigned entirely to the Dominion as though it had been so from the first, with compensation to the Provinces of *New Brunswick* and *Nova Scotia* for the share which those Provinces would have to pay upon the surplus of that debt, and praying Her Majesty to be pleased to recommend to the Imperial Parliament the passage of an Act to amend the *British North America Act* in accordance with such representation," inserted instead thereof;

And the Question being put on the Amendment to the said proposed Amendment; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:—