

If it had not been necessary to satisfy local prejudices in order to induce the different provinces of British North America to agree to Confederation, the powers of the provincial legislatures would have been much more restricted. The difficulty was to induce the separate provinces to surrender to a central authority powers which they already held. The difficulty of the Asquith government is to satisfy a number of Parliamentary groups, each representing a minority of the electors, but coalescing to force upon the majority of the people legislation which they do not want. If the settlement of the Home Rule question could be delayed until a party free from such embarrassments is in power a rational and practical system of Home Rule applicable to all sections of the United Kingdom might be devised.