

XV. In conclusion, Quebec represents that equity is on her side. The Legislature of the late Province of Canada took from the Crown Lands of the Province of Quebec a large quantity of lands, and made reserves for the various remnants of the Indian Tribes in this Province, for which no compensation was given to Lower Canada. True, a grant of lands was set apart seemingly for the benefit of Lower Canada, but nothing was ever done with those lands, which still form part of the Crown Domain, and were administered and sold, as much for the benefit of Upper Canada as of Lower Canada up to the time of Confédération; whereas in Upper Canada, lands have been purchased from the Indians which the late Province of Canada was bound to pay for by Annuities in perpetuity, and did pay for out of common funds until 1867.

When Confédération took place those lands became the property of Ontario, who derives all the benefits and advantages of the same.

Is it fair that to-day we should be called upon to pay any money for those lands which are administered to the exclusive advantage of Ontario?

The pretension of Ontario: That, although the whole of the proceeds of the sale of the lands mentioned in said Indian Treaties, and the lumber dues thereon, go to the profit of Ontario, Quebec is still responsible for her share of the amount of debt to be added to the late Province of Canada in respect to these lands, is a pretension which ought not to be entertained. In other words it amounts to this: That while Quebec made a present to the Indians of large quantities of land in Lower Canada without any compensation of any kind, that Province must now pay for Indian lands bought from the Indians in Ontario, and all the profits arising from which go to Ontario alone.

D. GIROUARD,

*Counsel for Quebec.*

Montreal, September 26, 1894.