

political parties had become so equally divided that the Conservatives of Upper Canada, and the French as well as English-speaking populations of Lower Canada, were convinced that some such constitutional changes as Mr. Brown had advocated must be accepted; and the Government entered into negotiations for this purpose with Mr. Brown and his friends. A scheme for a new Constitution fairly satisfactory to all was the result, and was the basis of the B. N. A. Act, 1867. By this new Constitution Mr. Brown accomplished for his own Province the great purpose of the agitation which he had led. His own Province had always been his chief concern; and it was his championship of Upper Canada interests for which he had been distinguished. By

THE CONSTITUTION OF 1867,

there was to be a Federal Parliament, with jurisdiction over all matters of common interest, and in this Parliament the Provinces were to be represented on the basis of population, which had been the great constitutional demand of the people of Upper Canada. In this Parliament, if under the new Constitution Canada had consisted of old Canada only, the Protestants would have had a considerably larger representation than before as compared with the Roman Catholics. The Protestant Province of Upper Canada by its population would have had in the new House of Commons 82 representatives instead of 65, as before; while the representation of Roman Catholic Lower Canada would remain at 65. But the representatives of the Maritime Provinces agreed to enter the union, and the majorities of their populations were Protestant. By their union with us the preponderance of Protestants was still greater. Thus, as regards matters of common interest to both or all the Provinces, the new Constitution secured to us the great reform of "Representation by Population;" and other matters were placed to a large extent beyond the

REACH OF OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE

by assigning them to a distinct Provincial Legislature. By this means our Provincial institutions and laws became more secure against Lower Canada influence or encroachment than "Representation by Population" alone and a Legislative union would have accomplished; for our local matters were to be absolutely within our own control, subject only to the Governor-General's power of disallowing new Provincial Acts. Under this scheme all matters relating to education, subject to a certain restriction which I shall