

himself fully qualified. Having referred to Cathcart, Bagot and Metcalfe, he said that Sir Edmund Head, after having filled subordinate Government positions in England, was appointed Lieut.-Governor of New Brunswick, and from that position, much to his own surprise and that of the people of Canada, was raised to be Governor-General of Canada. No one from his antecedents, or the weight he possessed in England, could have anticipated such a thing. The present holder of the office was entitled to every respect. He had not, however, in England held a position which it might be thought a man should have held who was qualified to be the Governor-General of Canada. He then proceeded to state the salaries paid to a number of other Colonial Governments, to show that, in proportion to the population and importance of those colonies, they were generally greater than here. In Mauritius, with a population of 1,183,000, there was a salary equal to that paid to the Governor-General of Canada. In new South Wales, the salary was 7,000 pounds sterling. In Victoria, Australia, with a population of 550,000, the salary was 10,000 pounds sterling.

**Hon. Mr. Holton** inquired whether the clause in the Union Act, with reference to the Governor's salary, was the work of our own delegates, or was inserted there in compliance with the expressed desire of the British Government. If it was the work of our own delegates, our own representatives, we were as free to change that provision of Union Act as we were to change the provisions of any Act of our Parliament; but if it was inserted at the desire of the British Government, formally expressed, then he thought we were bound to respect that desire and to carry it out, even though the amount should be \$100,000 instead of \$50,000.

**Sir J. A. Macdonald** said he thought then the honourable member for Chateauguay should recommend his honourable friend from Oxford to withdraw his motion. It was true there had been no formal statement of a desire on this point on the part of the British Government, but it was equally true that this clause, as every other clause, was the subject of conference and agreement between the Imperial Government and the Colonial Delegates. They had met day by day at the office of the Colonial Minister. Clause by clause was read and there was a continual interchange of opinion between the delegates and the Government as to every one of these clauses. He did not say that the Imperial

Government recommended this sum, but he did say that this clause with the other clauses was submitted to the Imperial Government, and that they accepted it at the hands of the delegates after full conference. The clause now in the Bill must be considered as the deliberate arrangement between the Imperial Government and the representatives of the several colonies; and although he could not say so as a matter of fact, yet he was as satisfied of it as that he was here, that if the delegates had proposed to fix the salary at 7,000 pounds sterling this would have been strongly objected to by the British Government.

**Hon. Mr. Johnson** said he did not wish a shred of the Union Act altered, and therefore he should vote against any reduction of the Governor's salary. He could not, however, acquiesce in the Tory doctrine laid down by the Premier when he spoke of the Crown revenue. These no doubt had belonged to the Crown, but they had to be administered in accordance with the advice of responsible ministers. He (Mr. Johnson) held that these revenues belonged to the people. The people held the purse strings and they must be administered by the Crown according to the advice of ministers responsible to the people. In the conference he had gone for 8,000 pounds, but was overruled, and the compact having been made, he did not wish it to be broken in any particulars.

**Dr. Parker** said that if the salary were allowed to remain at its present rate, as advocated by the Minister of Justice, hereafter it would be held that Parliament thought the present the fitting remuneration. As to reducing it hereafter, that would be found next to impossible. If it were to be reduced, it must be now or never. He did not agree with the Minister of Justice that the question was merely one of money—that all they had to do was to go into the English market and buy a Governor of the capacity we desired—that in proportion as a better or worse price were paid, would a better or worse representative be had. There was one point which could not be lost sight of, and that was that the wishes and interests of the people ought to be considered. Looking at the resources and future of the country, he maintained that the salary of \$50,000 was altogether too high. It certainly was one not regarded as satisfactory by the people.

**Hon. J. H. Cameron** could not agree with the honourable gentleman. He (Mr. Cameron)