

the selection of the future form of Government for Canada, when we shall emerge from the colonial condition. I am free to admit that I do not participate in the illusions of certain persons in respect to the magnificent destinies of the empire to be founded by us in North America, and that I am far from believing that it would be to our advantage. I am opposed to the scheme of Confederation, because I deny that this House has power to change the political constitution of the country, as it is now proposed to do, without appealing to the people and obtaining their views on a matter of such importance. These are the principal reasons which induce me to oppose the scheme brought down by the Government. But these are not all; I have yet many other considerations to urge. The gate of the future destinies of the country was opened when this scheme was laid before us, and I too am desirous of penetrating within its portals. I have said that the new organization which it is wished to establish here does not suit either our resources or our wants. It would appear that we cannot attain in Canada a reasonable limit as regards the administration of public affairs. Our system is not found to be extravagant enough, and it is wished to substitute for it one still more costly. Our neighbors have established an economical political system, which is much more advantageous to them than ours would be to any country. We pay here much more than is paid in the United States, although that people is infinitely richer than we are. If we prepare a list of the salaries paid to the governors of the states in the union, with a view of comparing it with the list of salaries which we pay here to our principal public employes, we shall be surprised at the difference which will be found to exist to our disadvantage. Here is a table of the salaries of the governors, together with the population of each state:—

States.	Population.	Salaries.
1. Maine.....	628,276	\$1,500
2. New Hampshire.....	226,073	1000
3. Vermont.....	315,098	1000
4. Massachusetts.....	1,231,066	3500
5. Rhode Island.....	174,620	1000
6. Connecticut.....	460,147	1100
7. New York.....	3,880,735	4000
8. New Jersey.....	672,035	3000
9. Pennsylvania.....	2,906,115	4000
10. Delaware.....	112,216	1333
11. Maryland.....	687,049	3600
12. West Virginia.....	393,234	2000
13. East Virginia.....	1,261,397	3000

States.	Population.	Salaries.
14. Kentucky.....	1,155,684	2500
15. Ohio.....	2,339,502	1800
16. Michigan.....	749,113	1000
17. Indiana.....	1,350,428	3000
18. Illinois.....	1,711,951	1500
19. Missouri.....	1,182,012	3000
20. Iowa.....	674,942	2000
21. Wisconsin.....	775,881	2000
22. Minnesota.....	173,855	1500
23. Kansas.....	107,206	2000
24. California.....	379,994	7000
25. Oregon.....	52,465	1500

There are also ten other states which were in rebellion at the beginning of the year 1864, the date of the table which I have given. It will be seen that Vermont pays only \$1,000 a year to an elective governor. That is less than we pay here to the mayors of our great cities. The State of New York, which is by itself more rich and populous than the whole of Canada, only pays \$4,000 a year to her Governor. I will not compare this salary with that of our Governor, amounting to \$32,000; but by comparing it with that of our judges of the second-class, it will be found that the latter receive higher salaries than the Governor of the State of New York. (Hear, hear.) The State of Ohio, more rich and more populous than Canada, only pays \$1,800 to her Governor. If the salaries are comparatively small in the United States, it is because it was understood there that good administration of public affairs might be obtained by the practice of a wise economy, without that display of luxury which is ruining us here. Another comparison, on a smaller scale, might be made between the State of New York and Canada, in respect of another matter. It is this:—The State of New York possesses magnificent canals, which cost her an enormous price; but the revenue produced by them has paid their cost, whilst here our canals, which also cost us very dear, do not even pay the interest of the debt which was contracted for their construction, and that is a point of difference by no means of small magnitude. The State of New York contracted a further debt for the enlargement of her canals after the revenue produced by them had paid off that which had been contracted for their construction; and the revenue which they yield is sufficient not only to pay the interest of that debt, but also to create a sinking fund which will allow of its liquidation in five years from the present day. Last year the State of