

**Hon. Mr. Tilley**—That is correct.

**Hon. Mr. Smith**—Well, the North-West resolutions were proposed and adopted before the House had any knowledge or any statement as to the finances at all. He would ask the honourable gentleman if he did not tell the people that their taxation would be diminished by Confederation from \$3.20 to \$2.75 per head? That there would be no stamp duties, and that there would be no increase of the duty on tea. In New Brunswick there was a strong feeling of dissatisfaction prevailing, which mainly arose from the disappointment of the expectations to which the promises of the honourable gentleman and those who had acted with him had given rise in his own constituency of Saint John and elsewhere.

**Hon. Mr. Tilley** said he hoped by and by to go to Saint John, and to be in a position to dispel the erroneous impressions which the member for Westmoreland and others had inculcated. So soon as relieved of his duties in Parliament, and so soon as he obtained the public accounts, as to the figures in which there could be no question, he would go down and would risk his position before his constituents, if he could not show that the people of New Brunswick had not paid and would not pay more money than they did in 1866, or more than they themselves paid into the Treasury of the Dominion.

**Hon. Mr. Smith**—That is a prediction.

**Hon. Mr. Tilley** said he would prove what he had stated when he had the official documents. Nay, more, he would prove that while the people of New Brunswick had had \$45,000 more voted by the Local Legislature for roads, bridges, education, etc., and had received \$700,000 more for railways, the interest on which was \$42,000, they had not paid a dollar more than they did before. He had stated that \$2.75 per head would be sufficient for the expenses of the Dominion, and that at all events \$3 would cover them. He had said further that at no period in the history of the Dominion, even with the construction of the Intercolonial Railway if built economically, would the expense exceed \$3.20 per head; and that was his opinion still. He denied that he had ever stated that stamp duties would not be imposed. As to the duties on tea and sugar, he had said that the members from the Maritime Provinces numbering 34 would make their influence felt, and that the opinions and wishes of the people of the Maritime Provinces would have due weight in this Parliament. He had said also that while the

tariff would have to be remedied as the home market for home manufactures would be enlarged, and while the excise taxes on some articles would be increased, yet the taxes as a whole would not be increased, and this was a position he still maintained.

**Mr. McLellan** contended that there must be a fallacy in the position assumed by the Minister of Customs, otherwise why should the Minister of Finance have estimated an increase of Customs and Excise of upwards of a million of dollars?

**Hon. Mr. Anglin** said the arguments of the Minister of Customs to-night were of the same character as those he had addressed to the people of New Brunswick, and were in direct contradiction of the knowledge and common sense of those to whom they were addressed. He (Mr. Anglin) had frequently answered the same arguments in New Brunswick, and had shown that in estimating the effects of Confederation on that Province, which imported very largely in proportion to population, it was not fair to argue that the direct taxation per head of the whole people of the Dominion would not be increased. If the honourable gentleman undertook to prove that people of New Brunswick did not pay more taxes than they paid ten months ago, he undertook a herculean task which he would find himself unable to perform. He went on to contend that ministers had shown culpable indifference to the interests and opinions of the Lower Provinces, and that if this were persisted in, the preservation of the Union should become impossible.

**Hon. Mr. Tilley** said if he failed to secure re-election in the County of Saint John, he would not, like the member for Gloucester, abandon the principles he had advocated for ten years to secure election in another.

After some further discussion the item was agreed to.

On the next item—Department of Inland Revenue, \$13,386.

**Hon. Mr. Holton** made another appeal to the Government to adopt early measures to reduce the number of departments. The non-necessity of this department was shown by the fact that it had got along notwithstanding the want of attention to its duties by the present incumbent, who had not been at his office for more than three months out of ten since the department was organized.

**Sir John A. Macdonald**, in reply, said the utmost attention to the duties of his office had