

might press upon them with regard to the treatment of Nova Scotia. They would consider that the influence of Dr. Tupper in the councils of the Dominion was greater than the influence of the whole people of Nova Scotia, and would be more estranged and more disposed to offer resistance to the Union than ever before. He thought the man worst calculated to represent the Dominion of Canada on such a mission, if there was any desire to conciliate Nova Scotia, was Dr. Tupper. The Premier said one reason why Dr. Tupper was selected was, that he was the prime mover of Confederation, so far as Nova Scotia was concerned. But that was the very reason why in Nova Scotia he was held to be a traitor. The Premier said Dr. Tupper was the best man to represent Nova Scotia, and a capital man to represent the Dominion. If so, where was the necessity of asking Mr. Galt to accompany him? Was he merely to be the acolyte, the aid and assistant to Dr. Tupper? He was not surprised that Mr. Galt should have declined such a secondary position, and should have refused to mix himself up in the quarrels between Dr. Tupper and the delegates from Nova Scotia. He thought the appointment a most unfortunate one. It would have been much better to have selected a gentleman entirely unconnected with the quarrels and difficulties between the representatives of Nova Scotia. Perhaps the best man who could have been selected for such a mission, if he had gone alone, would have been Mr. Galt, whose abilities and conciliatory manner would have well qualified him for such a task.

Mr. Mackenzie said it was with feelings of great regret that he felt compelled to take part in a discussion which must necessarily raise a question as to permanence of the Union of the British Provinces. He thought we could not in this age of the world adopt any policy which would have for its object or result the coercion of any people. (Hear, hear.) He found no fault with the Government for sending a deputation to England. The only question in his mind was whether the choice made of Dr. Tupper was a wise one or not. There was, no doubt, an advantage in having a deputy who was well acquainted with the whole controversy in Nova Scotia, but the matter in dispute could not be settled by an argument before the Imperial Government as to who was right or who was wrong in that controversy. (Hear, hear.) He thought, however, the choice of Dr. Tupper was an unwise one, and that it would have

been better to have chosen one well known to have been a strong friend of the Union, and at the same time not personally obnoxious by the course he had pursued in bringing about the Union. In any discussion to which the present attitude of Nova Scotia might give rise, he held it to be the duty of every true patriot to use only such arguments and such language as might have a tendency to soothe the feeling of anger and discontent which now prevailed to so great an extent in the Province of Nova Scotia. He regretted exceedingly that the Government had not chosen to take advice of the gentlemen on his side, who, though opposed to the Government, were not opposed to them in this matter, and that they had set aside the advice he had himself tendered them both publicly and privately to avoid these measures which would be construed by the people of the Lower Provinces into fresh causes of discontent. If this advice had been followed during the first part of this, the first Parliamentary session of the Dominion, he was satisfied he would not have seen the agitation in Nova Scotia carried to its present pitch, but the tendency of a number of the laws passed in the early part of the session had unfortunately been to increase the discontent. The true course for the Government to adopt now, would be frankly to admit the mistake into which they had fallen, and to take measures to remedy it by removing what were felt to be serious grievances in the Province of Nova Scotia, and to some extent also in the Province of New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. Cartier regretted that the honourable member for Hochelaga had not adopted such a line of arguments as the honourable member for Lambton. Dr. Tupper had not been sent home to take part in any discussion, but simply to afford the Imperial Government, if they should desire it, information upon the facts upon representation of which they had consented to the Act of Union. It was due to Dr. Tupper, who was in a great measure responsible for the passing of the measure, to give him the opportunity of such explanation, and it was due to the British Government that he should be there to answer for the advice he had then given. There was no possibility of political collision with the delegation. He asserted that no effort on the part of the Government would be wanting to assure Nova Scotia of the advantage of the Federation, and said that it was only by frankly and freely and fearlessly expressing the opinions of all parties that conciliation could be rendered possible.