

I was astonished to hear the hon. Leader of the Government state in this House a short time ago that the persons belonging to the Tenant League agitation should have made some apology for their conduct! Who would draw up that apology? What language should they employ? It would be a curiosity indeed! I should like to know what kind of a document it would be? Would it be kept in some of the public offices in Charlottetown for the Tenant Union men to sign their recantation before it, before being permitted to hold any public office? Was it because the Tenant Union men did away with the religious excitement caused by the hon. members on the other side of the House, that they were to make an apology? There is only one gentleman present who has tried to say one word in defence of the actions of the late Government. The religious excitement got up by that party was the means of causing trouble and serious disturbances, and if those disturbances had not been stopped no man could tell in what they would have ended. Again, are the Tenant Leaguers to apologise because they denounced Confederation—because they protested against the proceedings of the Quebec Convention where there was not one word of sympathy for this Colony? The Tenant Union declared against Confederation, and that declaration had its effect. The British Government knew all about our troubles and the peculiar circumstances in which they have placed us; why then do they make this unfair demand upon us? I, for one, will never give my vote for the payment of the salary of an officer appointed by the British Government, as long as that Government leaves our grievances undressed.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAND—It was of opinion that this move of the Imperial Government, in a sort of side-swing, took this Colony into Confederation, and that the demand amounts to this, that unless we join the other Colonies, we must pay our own Governor. We may be forced to pay this salary, but it is better to do so, than to go into Confederation. A great question, similar to our own, the Irish Grants—concerns the attitude of the ministers of Great Britain at the present time. This Colony, above all the others, has shown a great wish, in all cases, to carry out the Royal Instructions, and there was an agreement made in 1861, that in consideration of the loan which this Colony has sustained, the Imperial Government would pay the salary of the Lieutenant Governor. It has been shown very clearly, that this Island has been placed in an anomalous position by the Home Government. We know that the late Secretary of State for the Colonies, was very much in favor of Confederation, and this is one reason why we are now asked to pay the demand made upon us. I think any Government would be remiss in their duty, if they did not resist this unjust pressure which has been brought to bear upon us, and I do hope that our rights will be sustained. As long as our Land Question remains unsettled, and as long as the Imperial Government refuse to give a guarantee for our Loan, to arrange for the purchase of the Proprietary Lands, this demand will be most unreasonable and unwarrantable. I cannot understand the movements of the British Government in regard to the means of getting this Colony joined to the Confederation, for it has been clearly shown to them, that a very large majority of our people are against it. Why should we be told to pay the salary of our Lieutenant Governor on the one hand, and on the other, that we shall receive \$300,000 if we unite with Canada? At present the British Government will not sanction coercive measures in buying up the proprietors' lands; but we are told that if we enter Confederation measures, coercive or otherwise, would be carried into effect for the purpose of giving us free land. As we have neither Crown Lands nor Minerals, from which to draw a Revenue, the demand made upon us is unfair, and therefore if we are compelled to pay our Governor we will appoint him ourselves. I quite agree with the remarks made by the hon. member for Murray Harbor on this subject, and I think we should send home a delegate for the purpose of representing our claims, rather than yield to the demand.