

that I may give him the benefit of his views then expressed, I will quote from what he said on that occasion, as found in the unrevised 'Hansard,' page 3108:

The very basis of confederation, contemplating the eventual inclusion of all British North America, provided for separate schools in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec only. This provision was the result of compact and agreement. But no restrictions on provincial powers were contemplated in the Northwest. None are mentioned in the Quebec resolutions. The terms of the constitution, if applied in their integrity to the new provinces, do not, in my humble opinion, restrict the powers of the provincial legislature.

Now, I say to my hon. friend it is quite true that in the Quebec resolutions Quebec and Ontario alone are mentioned. But, Sir, the Quebec resolutions are not the British North America Act, the Quebec resolutions were simply the basis of the British North America Act, and there are several particulars in which the British North America Act differs from the Quebec resolutions. Several provisions were introduced in the British North America Act which were not found in the Quebec resolutions. Let me give a case in point. Section 80 of the British North America Act reads as follows:

The legislative assembly of Quebec shall be composed of sixty-five members, to be elected to represent the sixty-five electoral divisions or districts of Lower Canada in this Act referred to, subject to alteration thereof by the legislature of Quebec: Provided that it shall not be lawful to present to the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec for assent any Bill for altering the limits of any of the electoral divisions or districts mentioned in the second schedule to this Act, unless the second and third readings of such Bill have been passed in the legislative assembly with the concurrence of the majority of the members representing all those electoral divisions or districts, and the assent shall not be given to such Bill unless an address has been presented by the legislative assembly to the Lieutenant Governor stating that it has been so passed.

The counties or districts here mentioned are thus enumerated:

Pontiac, Ottawa, Argenteuil, Huntingdon, Missisquoi, Brome, Shefford, Stanstead, Compton, Wolfe and Richmond, Megantic, Town of Sherbrooke.

These are the counties which are known in that province as the English-speaking counties, and a provision was there inserted that the boundaries of these twelve counties could not be altered by the Quebec legislature except with the concurrence of the representatives of those twelve counties. That provision was not in the Quebec resolutions, that was a disposition introduced at Westminster into the British North America Act for the greater protection and security of the Protestant minority in Quebec. Therefore, I say that there are several things in the Quebec resolutions which

are not to be found to-day in the British North America Act. It is quite true that the Quebec resolutions referred, and referred only, to the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The Quebec resolution with regard to education was this:

The local legislatures shall have power to make laws respecting the following subjects: education, saving the rights and privilege which the Protestant and Catholic minority in both Canadas may possess as to their denominational schools, at the time when the union goes into operation.

However, that is not the language of the British North America Act? There is a disposition in the British North America Act in respect to the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, but there is also another disposition. There is this disposition:

In and for each province the legislature may exclusively make laws in relation to education, subject and according to the following provisions:

(1) Nothing in any such law shall prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools which any class of persons have by law in the province at the union.

These words, I grant, were not in the Quebec resolutions. They have not been imported from the Quebec resolutions into the British North America Act. Are we to be told that they are simply for ornament? Are we to be told that they have no meaning? Are we to be told that these words are not to be read as if they were in the Act although they are in the Act? It seems sufficient only to state such a question to have an answer. If those who do me the honour of listening to me at this moment will go back to the year 1866, to the month of November and to old London, they will find a number of men engaged in a very important work. Who are these men? They are the delegates from the provinces of old Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and they are engaged in the task of preparing the Act which is to be submitted to the Imperial parliament which is to become the charter of the Dominion of Canada and which is to give it new life and existence. We know that one of the delegates on that important mission was Mr. Galt and we know by the debates which have already taken place in this House that Mr. Galt was there as the special representative of the Protestant minority of Quebec. We know by the debates which have already taken place and by the language of Mr. Galt which has been quoted in this House that he was not satisfied with the Quebec resolution, that he was not satisfied with what my hon. friend has called the compact, that he thought the Quebec resolution did not convey to his co-religionists and fellow countrymen of the English speaking language all the security to which they were entitled. We know that it was his intention, because he had so stated be-