

the General Government." Now suppose that the Union should take place at the middle of a quarter, when there are large sums becoming due for salaries of public officers, &c., the whole of our cash, stocks, bankers' balances and securities are to be handed over to the General Government, and our local Government will have to pay them out of the sum we are to get at 80 cents a head. Then all public harbors are to be provided for, as are also canals. Now I think the construction of new canals should not be made chargeable upon the General Government, for if these canals are enlarged, ships of large tonnage will be enabled to pass through them; and thus an injury will be inflicted upon the trade of the Maritime Provinces. I believe if the House give powers to the delegates to claim that canals shall not be chargeable on the Confederation, while the Canadian Parliament is in session, that they will concede it to us. The harbors are to belong to the General Government, St. John not excepted, for there is no such thing as a private harbor. In Canada too they have spent immense sums in the improvement of their rivers and lakes, and for these improvements they will be able to tax us. The moment Confederation passes into law, the railroad we now own and control passes into the hands of the General Government, and every man employed upon it will owe allegiance and alone be responsible to the Government at Ottawa. The seven-million dollars of debt we go in with includes the cost of this road, but if we get connection with Nova Scotia and with the United States, that road will in a very short time pay six per cent., and the moment it does that, it ceases to be a debt. By this arrangement then about five millions of the seven millions will be lost to us. In Canada the debt has been incurred on improvements on their rivers, canals, &c., which will not pay anything like such a per centage, and therefore, they will be in a better position than we. It is further provided that all lands, mines, minerals, and royalties shall belong to the local government of the territory in which they are so situate. Now I would ask is it intended to give us the power to legislate on our mines and minerals? Why then in the provisions for the local Legislatures is there an exception made in favor of Nova Scotia with regard to her "coals and other minerals?"

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. SMITH resumed.—I think the course adopted by the Government

should be that as they intend to make the Quebec Scheme the basis of Union, they should have resolved this House into Committee, and submitted it and its modifications to us. Why, we have not the *Feltre* before us, except as it is published in books. If every hon. member returned to support Union had said on the hustings, "Here is the Scheme of Union, and I am bound to support it," the course now adopted might have been right. But it was not so. It is known that many of the hon. members were opposed to the provisions of that Scheme. Why, Mr. Speaker, it is reported that you, sir, on the hustings declared that you expected to assist in the preparation of a new Scheme. It seems to me if these Resolutions pass, hon. members will not be able to render a just account to their constituents for their conduct in this matter. There is no way that I can lay the subject before the House; I have no power here. The Government may say that Smith raises these objections merely to defeat the Union. I have not the power even if I had the will. I suggest these objections as they strike my own mind, because as I feel there is no power to prevent Union, it is for the interests of this country that the best terms possible should be obtained. To do this I think the delegates should receive certain and definite instructions from this House as to the terms they shall require. The delegates cannot oppose the Scheme in its entirety, for they have already declared it to be all that can be desired, unless they are instructed by this House to demand such modifications as the interests of the people demand. I find that a number of alterations have been made in this Scheme, and there is something strange in that. For two years past we have been trying to find out about the change that was made with regard to the electoral districts, and now again I have been just informed that in the Canadian journals another charge has been made with regard to the impositions of duties on the exports of timber, logs, masts, spars, deals, and sawn lumber; this is made to apply to New Brunswick only, and in "Nova Scotia on coals and other minerals." In our reports the words New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are left out, and it is made applicable to all the Provinces. Now which Scheme is right? the Canadian one, or that submitted to this people?

Hon. Mr. TILLEY.—The document laid before our people is the copy certified by the chairman of the Conference. Sir E. P. Tache, and there is no doubt that this is the copy of the resolutions as signed at Montreal. You, Mr. Speaker, and I recollect that as we derive a revenue from stampage we thought it right that it should be put into the rights conferred upon the local Governments, but in Upper and Lower Canada they have no stampage duty,

neither do they receive any revenue from mines of coal, &c., as in Nova Scotia. They, therefore, did not want it, and in the copy they submitted to their Parliament they inserted the words referred to, to show their people to what Provinces it referred. It was not in the original document, but left open as it is in our copies. The arrangement was, that this section should cover the wants of these two Provinces, and so the alteration was made:

Mr. SMITH.—Then we have the right to legislate on our mines and minerals, and so a little alteration in the phraseology will make that all right. Railways, post offices, and other public works are transferred from us to the use of the General Government, and so all the patronage and control that belong to them go with them.

"In consideration of the transfer to the General Parliament of the powers of taxation, an annual grant in aid of each Province shall be made equal to eighty cents per head of the population, as established by the census of 1861."

Here is another peculiarity with regard to the eighty cents a head. This is a section against which I have expressed my opposition again and again. Any one must know that as we increase in population our wants must increase. We shall want more money for our roads than now; we shall want more money for schools and other local purposes. We shall also want to assist those who are willing to go back and clear up new farms; and so as our numbers increase we shall want to do more. But how will it be? Why even now it is as much as we can do to provide for these purposes, and why then should the amount we are to receive be carried back to the population in 1861? And if our population increases in ten years to double what it is now, then we shall only get forty cents a head, and ten years after that again only twenty cents a head, and so on. The statesmen of Canada do not fail to state that if the wants of the people increase, resort must be had to direct taxation. But while population and consequent wants increase, the amount we are to receive remains the same. Canada will have the power to do as they will with their own money, and with ours too. If the population doubles in ten years we shall pay \$480,000 into the general treasury, and get out a sum based on the population of 1861 at eighty cents a head. I believe this will bring desolation and ruin upon this country. If the country grows as it ought to grow, we may look into the future and see the time when we shall get only ten cents a head for our whole population. But this appropriation is to be made annually. Instead of being paid out of the treasury it is to be made an annual grant of the Legislature, and I would ask if the public works of Canada go on, where will the money come