

and this could best be secured by their removal to Canada. And if such were to occur, then we may look for the same result here as centralization has produced in Ireland. I ask hon. members if those who represent New Brunswick in the second Branch of the Legislature should not reside in this Province? We know exactly what has occurred here. Mr. Steeves was appointed to the Upper Branch to represent the interests of the County of Alber, but he removed to St. John and all his interests and sympathies go with his place of residence, but still he retains his seat, and the County whose interests he was appointed to look after is unrepresented. Yet there is no power to put him out. I ask these delegates when they go home to require and demand that the Scheme be so altered that when Legislative Councillors are appointed they shall be compelled to reside in our own country and among our own people, or lose their seats. But in this matter as in every other, I submit my opinion with great deference to hon. members on the floors of this House.

"The first selection of the members of the Legislative Council shall be made * * * from the Legislative Councils of the various Provinces * * * such members shall be appointed by the Crown at the recommendation of the General Executive Government, upon the nomination of the respective local Governments, and in such nomination due regard shall be had to the claims of the members of the Legislative Council of the opposition in each Province, so that all political parties may as nearly as possible be fairly represented."

I see no hope even in this, for political parties and lines have faded out in the discussion of this question. I see many of my personal friends who have fought measures side by side with me, now politically opposed to me. Still I hope in the selection they will choose the best men. There are men in our Upper Branch who would adorn any Council, and do honor to any people, and I do hope they will appoint those best qualified to represent us without regard to political feelings or party promises. But the Government in this case too have the power in their own hands to do as they choose.

There is one thing that strikes my mind as somewhat strange, and that is the great hurry the thirty-three men who formed the Council at Quebec were in to push through this matter. I think they should not have finally decided on the various terms until they had had time to deliberate, and have had a second meeting of the Conference. Here matters of the utmost moment were brought up and decided on in a few days, and the unanimity with which they acted is most wonderful. And, Mr. Speaker, I should very

much like to have an expression from you on the subject, but I suppose I shall not be able to get it.

In all the Constitution there is no provision requiring that the parties selected to go to form the General Government should be qualified in the Provinces they represent, and yet it is evident to my mind that such a provision should be made, and with a strong clause that they should also reside in it.

"For the purposes of readjustment, Lower Canada shall always be assigned 65 members, and each of the other sections shall at each readjustment receive, for the ten years next succeeding, the number of members to which it will be entitled on the same ratio of representation to population as Lower Canada will enjoy according to the census last taken by having 65 members."

Now looking at the advantages of Upper Canada, it is evident that she will increase in population much more rapidly than Lower Canada. In the last twenty-five years she has far outstripped the latter Province, so that now Lower Canada is only to have 65 members whilst Upper Canada will have 82. She has, therefore, 17 members more than her sister Province, and looking forward to a similar increase in the next twenty-five years, she will then have 17 more, or 34 members more than Lower Canada. On this decennial re-adjustment principle then Upper Canada in twenty five years from this will have a majority in the House of Commons, and the result will be that we shall be bound at the foot of Upper Canada for her to do with us as she chooses. I think the delegates should see to it that a modification is made in this particular.

But there is a further provision, and I am alarmed and tremble for the consequences to this country. Not only is Upper Canada to go into this Union with a much larger number of representatives than either of the other Provinces, not only will that number be increased every ten years, but there is a still further concession made which provides that

"The number of members may at any time be increased by the General Parliament,—regard being had to the proportionate rights then existing."

It permits the representation to increase at "any time," besides the decennial increase, so that Upper Canada can gain the majority at any time she chooses, even at once. I would ask, is it necessary that there should be such a large representation in the Lower House? Is not 194 members enough? Why this section was inserted I do not know, and I again invoke the serious consideration of this House on this

question, especially when we are told that this scheme is to be the basis for Union, and when we know that no power has been given to the Canadian delegates to depart from its provisions.

"The General Parliament shall have power to make laws for the peace, welfare, and good government of the Federated Provinces."

And among those enumerated is,

"The raising of money by all or any other modes of taxation."

And this General Parliament have the further power to make any laws

"Respecting all matters of a general character not specially and exclusively reserved for the local Governments and Legislatures."

Now here is an overriding power which may come in conflict with the interests of the local Parliaments. And then when there is such a power the question of taxation is one of the greatest importance, for it effects the poor man and the man that toils for his living, and should, therefore, receive the most careful consideration. Now let us see. A power is given to the General Parliament not only to raise the necessary resources by duties on the imports and exports, but also to raise money "by all or any other modes or systems of taxation." I reiterate the statement that I call upon the delegates to see to it, that in the appointments made they select the best men they have. In the powers given to the General Government by specification is, that of "lines of steam or other ships, railways, canals, and other works, connecting any two or more of the Provinces together, or extending beyond the limits of any Province." Now in Canada they have a line of steamers running to Great Britain, and in Confederation I believe the cost and support of that line would be made a burden on us. And more than this, they have the power to subsidize any other steamers, and to throw the cost of canals and other public works upon the whole Provinces. Now I would ask the Attorney General what is meant by the words "other works?" In my opinion it means that any work in Upper or Lower Canada, of any description whatever, may be undertaken by the General Government if they consider it for the general welfare. I ask the Attorney General if such is the fact?

Hon. Mr. TILLEY.—I will explain it. Mr. SMITH.—I wish the explanation from the Attorney General. I ask him as a lawyer. He does not reply, so I may assume that I am correct. Another power given is the providing for