

other how they might best testify their respect and regard which they had for the Province of Nova Scotia. At the dinner at Montreal there were scores of opponents of the scheme—Dorion and Holton for instance, who had fought against it to the death on the floors of Parliament. John Sandfield McDonald also treated the delegates with the same consideration. In what position, then, would this country be placed, if it were to display, through its Legislature, feelings of hostility to the statesmen of a country who had treated our own public men, irrespective of party, with so much courtesy and attention? He would only add, that he felt when he had made the observation that he did in reference to the volunteers, that he was making a reflection upon Canada, for one of the finest displays that met the eye of the Delegates had been the march of the splendid volunteer artillery past the hotel in Montreal.—One part of the reception, at Toronto that had been arranged, but prevented by the weather, was a grand display of all the volunteers that could be collected in the city.

MR. SEWANT CAMPBELL said that the Provincial Secretary, a few days ago, had himself related an anecdote of a person who could always tell who had the worst of a controversy. Whenever one of the individuals engaged in the dispute showed a great deal of temper and excitement, then it was sure evidence that he was getting the worst of it. On the present occasion the Provincial Secretary had exhibited a great deal of unnecessary temper.

Hon. PROV. SEC.: I am quite ignorant of it, at all events.

MR. CAMPBELL: The hon. gentleman had reflected upon the course taken by the hon. member for Richmond in bringing this matter to the notice of the house. Now if there was any one in the house who was better justified than another in bringing it up, it was that same hon. member. Any one who was acquainted with the question through its various phases, must be aware that on a certain occasion at Temperance Hall, that gentleman was treated with an indignity which he did not deserve. It was felt to be an insult not to him alone, but to the people through the length and breadth of Nova Scotia. He (Mr. C.) was also one of those who felt that the City of Halifax was not the Province of Nova Scotia. It had been said that there were certain individuals about the streets who were underrating the position of members of the House who came from the rural districts. These individuals might have stock in the bank—real estate in this city and country,—but they had never appealed to any constituency in this Province and obtained the confidence of the people. Therefore they had no right to talk in such disparaging terms of gentlemen who for years had represented the rural districts. He was one of those who objected to the demonstration—not because it was intended, as the Provincial Secretary would make the House believe, as a reception to gentlemen from a sister colony. He objected to it because he could see through the motive and design with which the demonstration was got up. The people of the parent country had all been misled upon the question, and the course now about to be taken was for the purpose of keeping up that deception. Now he wished the people of England to be informed, as far as the house could inform them, of the

sense of the people of this country. The delegates reported to Great Britain when there was no legislature in session, and they had it all their own way. They misled the government of England, and as to the feelings of the people of these colonies; and he therefore thought the house, being now in session, owed it to themselves and those they represented, to take care that nothing took place with the concurrence of the government that could have the slightest tendency in the same direction. It was the Hon. Provincial Secretary himself that was attempting to place the house in a false position. He wished to have the impression go abroad that the house sympathized with the sentiments of those gentlemen who were now taking part in the demonstration in question. The hon. gentleman had alluded to the Union League, and had not paid a very high compliment to many gentlemen who, in times past, has been his valuable and active supporters. He had instituted a comparison between the members of the League and those who were opposed to it. He had ventured to say that the—to use his own language—most leading, influential, respectable citizens of Halifax were members of the League. Then it may be a natural deduction that those who did not belong to this organization did not compare in point of respectability or position with its members.

The hon. Provincial Secretary had gone through the Province and expressed his opinion as to the feeling of the country from what took place at some meetings at which he was present. Now few gentlemen would be ready to accept his version of the results of those meetings. Now talk was all very good, but it would have been more satisfactory if they had the best evidence that could be given of the feeling of the country—the evidence obtained from the votes of the people themselves. He challenged the hon. gentleman to produce one petition that had been sent to the house, endorsing this scheme of Confederation. The hon. Provincial Secretary had stated that the majority of the petitioners before the house expressed no positive opinion with reference to the question. But these petitions said in effect to the Provincial Secretary: You have said that the people of this country are in favour of this measure—that if you don't obtain the approval of the representatives of the people you will dissolve the house; now we call upon you to fulfill your promise, and dissolve the Legislature if you dare. Need the house be told that the hon. gentleman had paid some heed to the language of these petitions? He knew the feeling of the people and dared not test it.

The hon. Provincial Secretary had taken a liberty with an eminent Divine in this country which it was difficult to believe he was justified in taking. Every one who knew the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, was aware that no one could charge him with having ever taken a part in any political demonstration, or even expressed any feeling in reference to party matters, in this country. It was very bad taste for the Provincial Secretary, under the circumstances, to bring the name of that dignitary, without his concurrence, before the house. Until he heard from another month than the Provincial Secretary's that that gentleman is in favour of the measure, he would be disposed to doubt not only the authority that hon. member had for