QUEBEC CONFERENCE.

The Resolutions Adopted by the Provincial Representatives.

NEW FINANCIAL BASIS.

Unrestricted Reciprocity Endorsed by the Delegates.

DISALLOWANCE CENSURED.

Following are the resolutions adopted at the recent Inter-Provincial Conference at Quebec:

Respecting Amendments of the British North America Act.

Whereas, in framing the British North America Act, 1867, and defining therein the limits of the legislative and executive powers and functions of the Federal and Provincial Legislatures and Governments, the authors of the Constitution performed a work, new, complex and difficult, and it was to be anticipated that experience in the working of the new system would suggest many needed changes; that twenty years' practical working of the Act has developed much friction between the Federal and Provincial Governments and Legislatures, has disclosed grave omissions in the provisions of the Act, and has shown (when the language of the Act came to be judicially interpreted) that in many respects what was the common understanding and intention had not been expressed, and that important provisions in the Act are obscure as to their true intent and meaning; and whereas the preservation of Provincial autonomy is essential to the future well-being of Canada; and if such autonomy is to be maintained, it has become apparent that the Constitutional Act must be revised and amended; therefore the representatives and delegates of the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba, duly accredited by their respective Governments, and in conference assembled, believing that they express the views and wishes of the people of Canada, agree upon the following resolutions as the basis upon which the Act should be amended, subject to the approval of the several Provincial Legislatures:

LIMITING THE FEDERAL VETO.

1. That by the British North America Act exclusive authority is expressly given to the Provincial Legislatures in relation to subjects enumerated in the 92nd section of the Act; that a previous section of the Act reserves to the Federal Government the legal power of disallowing at will all Acts passed by a Provincial Legislature; that this power of disallowance may be exercised so as to give to the Federal Government arbitrary control over legislation of the Provinces within their own sphere; and that the Act should be amended by taking away this power of disallowing Provincial statutes, leaving to the people of each Province, through their representatives in the Provincial Legislature, the free exercise of their exclusive right of legislation on the subjects assigned to them, subject only to disallowance by Her Majesty in Council as before Confederation; the power of disallowance to be exercised in regard to the Provinces upon the same principles as the same is exercised in the case of Federal Acts.

QUESTIONS OF DISPUTED JURISDICTION.

2. That it is important to the just operation of our Federal system, as well that the Federal Parliament should not assume to exercise powers belonging exclusively to the Provincial Legislatures, as that a Provincial Legislature should not assume to exercise powers belonging exclusively to the Federal Parliament; that to prevent any such assumption, there should be equal facilities to the Federal and Provincial Governments for promptly obtaining a judicial determination respecting the validity of statutes of both the Federal Parliament and Provincial Legislatures; that constitutional provisions should be made for obtaining such determination before, as well as after, a statute has been acted upon; and that any decision should be subject to appeal as in other cases, in order that the adjudication may be final.

PRIVATE ATTACKS ON FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL STATUTES.

3. That it is in the public interest, with a view to avoiding uncertainty, litigation and expense, that the constitutionality of Federal or Provincial statutes should not be open to question by private litigants, except within a limited time (say two years) from the passing thereof; that thereafter such constitutionality should only be questioned at the instance of a Government, Federal or Provincial; that any enactment decided, after the lapse of the limited time, to be unconstitutional should, for all other purposes other than the mere pronouncing of the decision, be treated as if originally enacted by the Legislature or Parliament which had jurisdiction to enact the same, and as being subject to repeal or amendment by such Legislature or Parliament.

REFORM OF THE SENATE.

4. That a leading purpose of the Senate was to protect the interest of the respective Provinces as such; that a Senate to which the appointments are made by the Federal Government, and for life, affords no adequate security to the Provinces; and that, in case no other early remedy is provided, the British North America Act should be so amended as to limit the term for which the Senators hold office, and to give the choice, as vacancies occur, to the Province to which the vacancy belongs, until, as to any Province, one-half of the members of the Senate representing such Province are Senators chosen by the Province; that thereafter the mode of selection be as follows: If the vacancy is occasioned by the death, resignation or otherwise of a Senator chosen by a Province, that Province to choose his successor; and if the vacancy is occasioned by the death, resignation or otherwise of any other Senator, the vacancy to be filled as now provided by the Act, but only for a limited term of years.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS' POWERS.

5. That it was the intention of the British North America Act, and of the Provinces which were thereby confederated, that in respect of all matters as to which the Provincial Legislatures have authority, the Lieutenant-Governor of every Province, as the representative of the Sovereign in Provincial affairs, should have the same executive authority as other Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of British Colonies and Provinces; that the Act has practically been so construed and acted upon in all the Provinces ever since Confederation; that it is of essential importance to the Provinces that this right should be maintained, and should be placed beyond doubt or question; that, there being no express provision in the Act declaring such right, and the right being in consequence occasionally denied and resisted, the Act should be amended by declaring its true construction to be according to the intention and practice as herein mentioned.

FEDERAL SEIZURE OF LOCAL WORKS.

6. That the Federal authorities construe the British North America Act as giving to the Federal Parliament the power of withdrawing from Provincial jurisdiction local works situated within any Province, and though built in part or otherwise with the money of the Province or the municipalities thereof; and of so withdrawing such local works (without compensation) by merely declaring the same to be for the general advantage of Canada or for the advantage of two or more Provinces, whether that is or is not the true character of such works within the meaning and intention of the Act; that it was not the intention that local works should be so withdrawn without the concurrence of the Provincial Legislature, or that the power of the Federal Parliament should apply to any other except "such works as shall, although lying wholly within any Province, be specially declared by the Acts authorizing them to be for the general advantage," as expressly mentioned in section 29, subsection 11, of the Resolutions of the Quebec Conference of 1864, and that the Act should be amended accordingly.

FEDERAL ELECTIONS ON PROVINCIAL LISTS.

7. That there exists in each Province the requisite machinery for preparing voters' lists and revising the same for elections to the Provincial Assembly; that, without any detriment to either Federal or Provincial interests, the lists so prepared were used for twenty years at all Federal elections, under the express terms of the British North America Act and of the subsequent statutes of the Federal Parliament; that the preparation of separate voters' lists for Federal elections is cumbrous and confusing, and involves great loss of time and needless expense to all concerned therein; and that in the opinion of this conference the British North America Act should be so amended as to provide that, at all elections to the Federal Parliament, in any Province, the qualification and lists of electors should be the same as for the Legislative Assembly of the Province.

POWER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO APPOINT MAGISTRATES.

8. That the intention of the British North America Act and of the several Provinces thereby confederated was, that the Provincial authorities should have the power of appointing stipendiary, police and other magistrates, and all officers who are under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Legislatures; that ever since Confederation all such appointments have accordingly been made by Provincial authority; that it is just and right in the general interest that the Provinces should have this power; that a question has been raised in some of the Provincial Courts as to whether, by the technical effect of the Act, such power exists; and that, to remove all doubt on so important a matter, an amendment of the Act should be obtained, expressly declaring that the jurisdiction to make such appointments does belong to the Provinces.

REVENUE FROM PROVINCIAL COURTS.

9. That, according to the intention of the British North America Act and its promoters, the Provinces are entitled to all fees paid or payable on legal proceedings in the Provincial Courts; that the Provinces accordingly have always enjoyed or dealt with the revenue therefrom; that, according to a recent decision of Her Majesty's Privy Council, the Provincial Legislatures cannot legislate as to such fees or apply the revenue to Provincial purposes; and that the Act should be so amended as to expressly give this constitutional right.

POWER OF ISSUING COMMISSIONS TO HOLD COURTS.

10. That by the British North America Act the Provincial Legislatures have exclusive jurisdiction to make laws in relation to the administration of justice, including the constitution, maintenance and organization of Provincial Courts, both of civil and criminal jurisdiction; that a judicial opinion has been expressed that a Lieutenant-Governor has the power of issuing commissions to hold Courts of Assize and Nisi Prius, Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, but the right to do so is considered to be so open to the question that, when it is deemed necessary to hold such a Court, independent commissions expressed in the same terms have, by arrangement between the Federal and Provincial Governments, been issued by the Governor-General and Lieutenant-Governor; that it is expedient that all doubt should be removed and the contrivance of two commissions rendered unnecessary; and that an amendment of the Act should expressly declare that the Lieutenant-Governors have power to issue such commissions, subject to Provincial statutes.

PRIVILEGES OF LOCAL LEGISLATURES.

11. That it has been found by the experience of all legislative bodies to be necessary that they should possess certain privileges and immunities to enable them effectually to discharge the functions entrusted to them; that, for this purpose, Acts have been passed by the Parliament of Canada, and confirmed by Imperial legislation, defining the privileges, immunities and powers of the two Houses and of the members thereof; that Acts in like manner have been passed by several Provincial Legislatures defining the privileges of their Legislative Councils and Legislative Assemblies; that these Acts have not yet been confirmed by Imperial legislation; that doubts have been expressed as to the power of the Provincial Legislatures to pass these laws; that a Provincial Legislature should have the same power to pass Acts defining the privileges of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly and of the members thereof, as the Federal Parliament has to pass Acts defining the privileges of the Senate and House of Commons and of the members thereof; that the Provincial Acts should be confirmed as the Federal Acts were; and that it should be declared by the amending Imperial statute that a Provincial Legislature has, with respect to itself, the same powers as the Federal Parliament has with reference to such Parliament.

ABOLITION OR REFORM OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

12. That in two of the Provinces of the Dominion there is no second chamber; that in five of the Provinces there is a second chamber; that in one of these five the Legislative Council is elective and for a limited term; that in the other four the appointments are by the Lieutenant-Governor and for life; that the experience which has been had since Confederation shows that, under responsible government and with the safeguards provided by the British North America Act, a second Provincial chamber is unnecessary, and the expense thereof may in all the Provinces be saved with advantage; that under the Act a Provincial Legislature has power to amend the constitution of the Province; that this power includes the abolition of the Legislative Council, or changing the method of constituting the same; that the provision has failed to effect the abolition of the Council in some Provinces where public opinion is believed to favor such change; and that the Act should be so amended as to provide that, upon an address of the House of Assembly, the elected representatives of the people, Her Majesty the Queen may by proclamation abolish the Legislative Council, or change the constitution thereof, provided that the address is concurred in by at least two-thirds of the members of such House of Assembly.

FEDERAL CLAIMS TO PROVINCIAL CROWN LANDS.

13. That by the British North America Act it is provided that all lands belonging to the several Provinces of Canada shall belong to the Provinces respectively in which they are situate; that the claim recently made by the Federal Government to all Crown lands as to which there was no treaty with the Indians before Confederation, is contrary to the intention of the Act and of the Provinces confederated, is unjust, and is opposed to the construction which, until a recent period, the Act received from the Federal authorities, as well as from the Legislatures and Governments of the Provinces; that the Act should be amended so as to make clear and indisputable in its technical effect, as well as its actual intention, that all such lands belong to the Province in which they are situate, and not to the Dominion.

BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY.

14. That by the British North America Act the jurisdiction with respect to bankruptcy and insolvency is assigned to the Federal Parliament; that there is no Federal law on that subject now in force; that, in the absence of a law for the whole Dominion, it is in the public interest that each Province should be at liberty to deal with the matter, subject to any Federal law which may thereafter be passed; that it is doubtful how far under the present provisions of the Act, the Provincial Legislatures can deal with the subject; and it is desirable that the Act be amended by expressly giving to the Provinces the necessary jurisdiction, in the absence of and subject to any Federal law.

PROVINCIAL POWER TO PARDON PRISONERS.

15. That it was provided by the 44th Resolution of the Quebec Conference of 1864, that "the power of respiting, reprieving and pardoning prisoners convicted of crimes, and of commuting and remitting of sentences in whole or in part, which belongs of right to the Crown, should be administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of each Province in Council," subject as in the said resolution set forth; that all provision relating to this power was omitted from the British North America Act; that by the royal instructions given to the Governor-General subsequently to the passing of the Act, His Excellency is (among other things) "authorized and empowered to grant any offender convicted of any crime, in any court, before any judge, justice or magistrate within the Dominion, a pardon;" that by reason of this language and otherwise doubts have arisen as to the power of a Lieutenant-Governor of a Province to respite, reprieve or pardon prisoners convicted of an offence against the laws of the Province, or of commuting and remitting, in whole or part, any sentence, fine, forfeiture, penalty or punishment in respect of any such offence; that it is presumed this was not the purpose of the instructions; that the power of dealing with all matters relating to the execution of Provincial laws should belong to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of each Province, leaving (if deemed desirable) the power of the Federal Government to apply to other cases; and that the Act should be amended accordingly.

THE NORTHERN BOUNDARIES OF ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

16. That the Provinces represented at this conference recognize the propriety of all questions as to the boundaries of the Provinces being settled and placed beyond dispute; that the boundaries between Ontario, Manitoba and the Dominion, so far as the same have been determined by Her Majesty in Privy Council should be established by Imperial statute, as recommended by the order of Her Majesty; and that the whole northern boundaries of Ontario and Quebec should be determined and established without further delay.

THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT AS TO PROVINCIAL SUBSIDIES.

17. That by the British North America Act all the Customs and Excise duties, as well as certain other revenues of the Provinces, were transferred from the Provinces to the Dominion, and it was provided that the following sums should be paid yearly by the Dominion to the several Provinces for the support of their Governments and Legislatures:

Ontario	$80,000
Quebec	70,000
Nova Scotia	60,000
New Brunswick	50,000

And that an annual grant in aid of each Province should be made, equal to 80 cents per head of the population as ascertained by the census of 1881, with a special provision in the cases of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

INCREASED BURDENS ON THE PROVINCES.

(2) That the revenue of the Dominion, at the inception of Confederation, was $13,716,786, of which 20 per cent. or $2,753,906 went to the Provinces for Provincial purposes, 80 per cent., or $10,962,880, going to the Dominion; that by increased taxation, on an increased population, the Dominion revenue has been raised from $13,716,786 to $33,177,000; that while this increased taxation is paid by the people of the Provinces, and the increase of population imposes upon the Provinces largely increased burdens, no corresponding increase of subsidy has been granted to them, 13 only, instead of 20 per cent., of the increased revenue of the Dominion, or $4,182,525, being now allowed to the Provinces, while, instead of 80 per cent. 87 per cent., or $28,994,475, is retained by the Dominion.

GREATER COST OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND LEGISLATION.

3. That the yearly payments heretofore made by the Dominion to the several Provinces under the British North America Act have proved totally inadequate for the purposes thereby intended; that the actual expenses of civil government and legislation in the several Provinces greatly exceed the amount provided therefor by the Act; and that the other expenditure necessary for those local purposes which, before Confederation, were provided for out of Provincial funds, has largely increased since.

NOT READY FOR DIRECT TAXATION.

4. That several of the Provinces are not in a condition to provide, by direct taxation or otherwise, for the additional expenditure needed, and in consequence have from time to time applied to the Federal Parliament and Government for increased annual allowances.

BASIS FOR A FINAL SETTLEMENT.

That this Conference is of opinion that a basis for a final and unalterable settlement of the amounts to be yearly paid by the Dominion to the several Provinces for their local purposes and the support of their Governments and Legislatures, may be found in the proposal following, that is to say:

THE PLAN PROPOSED BY THE CONFERENCE.

(A) Instead of the amounts now paid, the sums hereafter payable yearly by Canada to the several Provinces to the support of their Governments and Legislatures, to be according to population and as follows:

(a) Where the population is under 150,000	$100,000
(b) Where the population is 150,000, but does no exceed 200 000	150,000
(c) Where the population is 200,000, but does not exceed 400,000	180,000
(d) Where the population is 400,000, but does not exceed 800 000	190,000
(e) Where the population is 800,000, but does not exceed 1,500,000	220,000
(f) Where the population exceeds 1,500,000	240,000

PAYMENT ACCORDING TO POPULATION.

(B) Instead of annual grant per head of population now allowed, the annual payment hereafter to be at the same rate of eighty cents per head, but on the population of each Province, as ascertained from time to time by the last decennial census, until such population exceeds 2,500,000; and at the rate of sixty cents per head for so much of said population as may exceed 2,500,000.

THE CASE OF MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(C) The population as ascertained by the last decennial census, to govern except as to British Columbia and Manitoba; and as to these two Provinces, the population to be taken to be that upon which, under the respective statutes in that behalf, the annual payments now made to them respectively by the Dominion are fixed, until the actual population is by the census ascertained to be greater; and thereafter the actual population, so ascertained, to govern.

TO BE FINAL BY IMPERIAL ENACTMENT.

(D) The amounts so to be paid and granted yearly by the Dominion to the Provinces respectively to be declared by Imperial enactment to be final and absolute, and not within the power of the Federal Parliament to alter, add to or vary.

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL.

(6) That the following table shows the amounts which, instead of those now payable for government and legislation and per capita allowances, would hereafter be annually payable by the Dominion to the several Provinces (the same being calculated according to the last decennial census for the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and according to the limit of population now fixed by statute for the Provinces of British Columbia and Manitoba):

Province.	ation, 1881.	llowance for Government and legislation.	The subsidy per head.	Total allowance for Government, etc., and subsidy.
Ontario	1,923,328	$240,000	$ 1,538,662 40	$ 1,778,662 40
Quebec	1,359,027	220,000	1,087,221 60	1,307,221 60
Nova Scotia	440,572	100,000	352,457 60	542,457 60
New Brunswick	321,233	180,000	256,986 40	436,986 40
Prince Edward Island	108,891	100,000	87,112 80	187,112 80
Manitoba	150,000	150,000	120,000 00	270,000 00
British Columbia	60,000	100,000	48,000 00	148,000 00
		$1,180,000	$ 3,490,440 80	$ 4,670,440 80

CONSIDERATION BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

(7) That this Conference deems it desirable that the proposal above set forth should be considered by the Governments of the several Provinces of the Dominion, and, if approved of, should be submitted to the Provincial Legislatures.

DUTY OF THE LEGISLATURES.

18. That in the opinion of this Conference, the several Provinces of the Dominion, through their respective Legislatures, should at the earliest practicable moment take steps with the view of securing the enactment by the Imperial Parliament of amendments to the British North America Act in accordance with the foregoing resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS RESPECTING PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION IN CERTAIN MATTERS.

There having been submitted for the consideration of the Conference some matters of inter-Provincial interest and concern in respect whereof no amendment of the British North America Act is necessary, this Conference, as to certain of the said matters, resolves as follows:

PROTECTION OF MAGISTRATES UNDER CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS.

19. That, in view of the doubts which arise from time to time as to the respective powers of the Federal Parliament and Provincial Legislatures, it is expedient and just that it should be enacted by the respective Provincial Legislatures, that no action shall lie against any judge, stipendiary or police magistrate, justice of the peace, or officer, for any act done under the supposed authority of a statutory provision which may afterwards be held to have been beyond the legislative jurisdiction of Parliament or the Legislature which enacted the same, provided the action would not lie against him is the statutory provision had been within such legislative jurisdiction.

LAWS RESPECTING THE ENFORCEMENT OF DEBTS.

20. That it is desirable that the laws of the several Provinces for the enforcement of debts should be assimilated as far as may be consistent with the different legal systems prevailing in the respective Provinces; that this Conference is of opinion that such assimilation should include provisions against preferences by insolvent debtors, and provisions for the examination of debtors, and for taking speedy possession of an insolvent's estate for the benefit of his creditors; so far as these subjects can be dealt with by the Provincial Legislatures.

PROBATES AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION.

21. That this conference approves of there being legislative provision in the several Provinces of the Dominion, rendering effectual in all the Provinces (subject to proper conditions) probates and letters of administration granted in any one of them.

GIVING EFFECT TO IMPERIAL LEGISLATION.

22. That this conference approves of a similar law being passed in all the Provinces (subject to proper conditions) with respect to probates and letters of administration granted in the United Kingdom, to go into effect when probates and letters of administration granted in the Dominion are by Imperial legislation made effectual in the United Kingdom.

CO-OPERATION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INVITED.

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing resolutions be formally communicated by the President on behalf of this conference to the Federal Government, and that this conference do cordially invite the co-operation of the Federal Government in carrying into effect these resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE TRANSMITTED TO THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS.

That copies of the foregoing resolutions be also transmitted by the President of this Conference to the respective Governments of the Provinces not represented at this Conference, namely, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia, with a view to their concurrence in and support of the conclusions arrived at by this conference.

(Signed)

O. Mowat, Prime Minister of Ontario and Attorney-General.

Honore Mercier, Prime Minister of Quebec and Attorney-General.

W. S. Fielding, Prime Minister of Nova Scotia and Provincial Secretary.

Andrew G. Blair, Prime Minister New Brunswick and Attorney-General.

J. Norquay, Prime Minister of Manitoba, President of Council and Provincial Secretary.

C. F. Fraser, Executive Councillor of Ontario and Commissioner of Public Works.

Arthur S. Hardy, Executive Councillor of Ontario and Provincial Secretary.

A. M. Ross, Executive Councillor of Ontario and Treasurer.

Geo. W. Ross, Executive Councillor and Minister of Education.

David A. Ross, Executive Councillor of Quebec.

Arthur Turcotte, Executive Councillor of Quebec and Acting Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Joseph Shehyn, Executive Councillor of Quebec and Provincial Treasurer.

Charles A. Ern. Gagnon, Executive Councillor of Quebec, Provincial Secretary and Registrar.

J. McShane, Executive Councillor of Quebec and Commissioner of Agriculture and Public Works.

Geo. Duhamel, Executive Councillor of Quebec and Solicitor-General.

F. G. Marchand, Speaker of Legislative Assembly of Quebec.

J. W. Longley, Executive Councillor of Nova Scotia and Attorney-General.

A. McGillivray, Executive Councillor of Nova Scotia.

David McLellan, Executive Councillor, Provincial Secretary and Receiver-General of New Brunswick.

C. E. Hamilton, Executive Councillor of Manitoba and Attorney-General.

A DECLARATION FOR UNRESTRICTED RECIPROCITY

The following additional resolutions were also adopted at the Inter-Provincial Conference:

"That, having reference to the agitation on the subject of the trade relations between the Dominion and the United States, this Inter-Provincial Conference, consisting of representatives of all political parties, desires to record its opinion that Unrestricted Reciprocity would be of advantage to all the Provinces of the Dominion; that this Conference and the people it represents cherish fervent loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen, and warm attachment to British connection; and that this Conference is of opinion that a fair measure providing under proper conditions for Unrestricted Reciprocal trade relations between the Dominion and the United States would not lessen these sentiments on the part of our people, and, on the contrary, may even serve to increase them, and would at the same time, in connection with an adjustment of the fishery dispute, tend to happily settle grave difficulties which have from time to time arisen between the Mother Country and the United States." Carried unanimously.

DISALLOWANCE OF MANITOBA RAILWAY ACTS CONDEMNED.

That the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba at its last session enacted a measure providing for the construction of a railway from the city of Winnipeg to West Lynne, known as the Red River Valley Railway; that the line of the proposed railway is within the original limits of the Province of Manitoba as defined by 33 V., c. 3 of the Statutes of Canada; that by the subsequent Act 44 V., c. 14, for the extension of the boundaries of the Province, it was enacted that "the said increased limit and the territory thereby added to the Province of Manitoba shall be subject to all such provisions as may have been or shall hereafter be enacted respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway and the lands to be granted in aid thereof;" that this provision does not apply to the original limits of the Province; that the Province of Manitoba in accepting the extension of its boundaries on the conditions mentioned did not surrender any right, power or franchise which may be exercised by the Province within its original limits; that the Legislature, in passing its measure for the construction of the Red River Valley Railway, acted within its constitutional powers; that the Act has, notwithstanding, been disallowed by the Federal Government; that this conference views with alarm this encroachment of the Federal upon Provincial power, by which the will of the people of a Province in a matter within Provincial jurisdiction is subordinated to the will of the central power; and that this conference desires to express its sympathy with the people and Legislature of Manitoba in their struggle for the rights of their Province.

The delegates from the Province of New Brunswick did not concur in this motion, and wished their dissent to be placed on record.

At a Musicale.

He—"Shall I bring you an ice while Miss Yellfort is singing? Pray take something.'

She (a rival of Miss Y.)—"Thanks, no. If I took anything it would be ether."

Mrs. Spilkins says she believes it now—believes that this is to be a year of wonderful phenomena—for Spilkins went to a lodge meeting the other night and came home sober.

It is stated that Dr. Morell Mackenzie admits that the Crown Prince is suffering from cancer in his throat, but deprecates an operation which can do no good and will be attended with great danger.

A number of Baptist Churches and clergymen will follow Mr. Spurgeon's example by withdrawing from the Baptist Union. The Nottingham Tabernacle has passed a resolution of sympathy with Mr. Spurgeon.

All Russians resident in Berlin have been visited by the police and given a list of questions relating to the date and place of their birth, their domestic and business life, etc. Answers to these questions must be sent to the Russian Consulate within twenty-four hours.

THE CAROLINA GOVERNORS.

Wide Fame of the Historical Remark and the Circumstances of It.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Thompson, who as Acting-Secretary of the Treasury in the absence of Secretary Fairchild last week, issued the $14,000,000 bond circular, is one of the handsome members of the Government. He is very well made and has a very graceful manner—a manner that his white hair makes courtly. But his white hair is the work of thought, and not of age, for his face is full and ruddy, and his step is quick and youthful. He was formerly Governor of South Carolina, and might therefore be supposed to know more or less about that famous remark of the Governor of North Carolina. He said to me the other day that it was marvellous how far the remark had travelled. During his long tour among the light houses and life-saving stations on the great lakes this summer he heard of it in the most unexpected ways and places. "Why," he continued, "one day Mr. Kimball (the superintendent of the life-saving service) and I went ashore at a little village to get shaved. We found a little barber shop and two inquisitive barbers. The one who shaved me was even more curious than most barbers. He asked me questions about my journeyings until he found out that I was from Washington, and then he asked me whether I had a place in any of the departments. I told him I had, but did not tell him what it was, and he did not think it well to pursue the subject. He got through before the other barber, and I told Kimball, as I surrendered my chair to an old countryman, that I would wait for him outside. No sooner had I gone than my barber asked Kimball who I was. 'That was Governor Thompson, of South Carolina,' he said, 'now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.' With that the old farmer rose up in his chair, all lathered as he was, and said: 'Do you suppose he would tell me what it was the Governor of North Carolina said to him?'" I asked Governor Thompson who those famous governors were and just what occurred at their famous meeting. He said that he did not know them by name, and that the story was old when he was born. The tradition was that the Governor of North Carolina, in the good old days when prohibition was not dreamed of, journeyed, on horseback of course, to make a formal call on the Governor of South Carolina. The latter had a jugful of liquor in the house at the time, and for some inexplicable reason could get no more. When his distinguished guest arrived he set the jug out on the table and invited the Governor of North Carolina to make himself at home. The guest drank copiously, the host moderately, to preserve at once his soberness and his liquor. At last he saw with dismay that his guest had drunk the last drop of the precious liquor. The guest was too drunk to know it, but he missed the familiar invitation of his host to take another drink. So leaning on his elbows he looked across the table reproachfully with the melancholy remark: "Governor, it's a long time between drinks."—*Washington Letter to Philadelphia Record.*

Good Mercantile Maxims.

Never do business for the sake of doing it.

Do not be in a hurry to get rich. Gradual gains are the only natural gains.

It is not the business that elevates the man, but the man who elevates the business.

Never take great hazards, for they are seldom well balanced by the prospects of profit.

The man who has not one-half of his stock paid for is an unsafe customer, provided he has no other available means.

Stick to your business. Let speculators make their thousands in a day. Your increase may be slow, but it is sure and safe.

The honorable merchant who infuses energy, ability, honesty and good sense in his business with moderate capital invariably succeeds.

When trade is dull use every legitimate means to improve it. Some merchants stop advertising when trade is slow. This is just the time it is most needed.

At 3 in the Morning.

He was leaning against the lamp-post, and the watchful guardian of the night came up very respectfully.

"Fine night, Mr. Jones."

"Bootiful."

"You're out rather late, ain't you?"

"No, no—about my usual time."

"Are you waiting for somebody?"

"No, no—going home. A little tired, that's all; a little tired."

"I'll walk down with you and see you to your door."

"Thank you, thank you, but there's no need. The other side of the block will be 'round this way in a moment, and I'll just pop in when my door comes along. Thank you. Good night."

Consolation.

Druggist—"Now, what do you want?"

Boy—"Three cents' worth of paregoric."

Druggist—"What do you mean, waking me up for 3 cents?"

Boy—"Why, I had ter git up fer nuffin?"

Not To-Morrow.

He—Oh, my darling; you will be mine, will you? When may I talk to your mother—to-morrow?

She—Yes—that is—no, no! To-morrow is washday.—*Waterbury American.*

A Profitable Watch.

"Is time money?" asked a gentleman of a jeweller.

"It is said to be."

"Well, I thought so, and here is an evidence of it. I bought this watch here six months ago, and it has gained time enough to pay for itself."

There was a severe shock of earthquake in the northern part of Italy yesterday, but no loss of life is reported.

It is announced that Messrs. O'Brien and Mandeville, on their release, will bring actions for damages against Magistrate Stokes for illegal arrest, and Inspector of Police Creagh for assault.

A pair of Siberian kittens belonging to R. T. Wilson, of East Mottingham, Pa., have each a blue and a gray eye, and one of them has twenty-two toes.