

Mr. McKELLAR said that when the Premier, some days ago, intimated to himself and his hon. friend beside him (Mr. Blake), that it was the intention of the Government to move in this matter, they, speaking for themselves and for their friends on that side, assured him that they had reason to believe that there would not be a single hon. gentleman on that side of the house opposed to such a resolution as that now moved. If the calamity which had overtaken our fellow-countrymen in the Maritime Provinces had overtaken our fellow-beings in any part of the world, he was sure the people of Ontario would have cheerfully contributed of their means to relieve the distress; and when it had overtaken our own fellow-countrymen, he thought we were still more bound to contribute, than if they were strangers. We were also the more bound to contribute, because Providence had given us, in this part of the Dominion, a bountiful harvest. Another reason, perhaps, why we should contribute, was that certain persons were misrepresenting us in that part of the country at the present time, endeavouring to produce the impression that we, in this western part of the Dominion, were disposed to deal unfairly with the people of the Maritime Provinces. We had now the opportunity of showing that we were willing at least to contribute for the relief of their sufferings, and he was assured of this, that if our positions were transposed—if we were suffering, and the people of Nova Scotia had the means at their disposal to assist us, they would as cheerfully render us that assistance as we cheerfully rendered it now to them. (Hear, hear). He had had the pleasure of visiting that Province, and a more generous, hospitable, warm hearted people he never saw. He had great pleasure in supporting the motion, which he was sure would be approved of by our whole people, from one end of the Province of Ontario to the other.

Sir HENRY SMITH thought the Government deserved the thanks of the country for acting in this matter so promptly. For his own part, he would have been happy to have seen proposed double the sum that was mentioned in this resolution, but he hoped this would be taken by the people of Nova Scotia as an instalment of the expression we would ever be ready to give of our good will towards them.

Mr. CUMBERLAND regretted that the sum proposed by the Government should be so small. As this house represented one-half of the Confederation, he thought it would have been becoming in them to have shewn the example of a proper liberality. If the amount of this grant were in any way to measure the amount of the suffering, he thought it could scarcely be supposed that the suffering was such as to call for the interposition of this house. But if the suffering was wide-spread and severe—as he had no doubt the Government had evidence assuring them was the fact—then he thought the house ought, at least, to double the amount.

Mr. FERGUSON said the amount—so far