

vested interests, and the tendency of increasing population to demand for the people a fuller measure of political initiative and a well defined responsibility of the government to the electors. The main difference between the Maritime provinces and the Canadas in this respect was that, while in the latter violent means were employed in order to bring about reforms, in the former, constitutional methods were strictly adhered to. In Nova Scotia, the cause of reform found its strongest champion in Joseph Howe; in New Brunswick the lead was taken by such men as E. B. Chandler and L. A. Wilmot. For all the provinces the full recognition and establishment of the principle of responsible government may be assigned to the years of 1848 and 1849.

**The Confederation Agreement and the Extension of Canada.**—The principle of representation according to population was put into operation by the British North America Act, so far as the constitution of the elective chamber, henceforward to be called the "House of Commons," was concerned. In the old Canadian Legislature each section of the province returned sixty-five members. The new province of Quebec retained this measure of representation, and the other provinces were allowed representation in the same proportion as sixty-five bore to the population of the province of Quebec. In the upper house, or "Senate," equality of representation was established as between Ontario and Quebec, twenty-four seats being given to each, while New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were allowed twelve each. The debts of the several provinces were equitably provided for, and a payment at so much per head of population was made for provincial expenses out of the federal revenue arising from customs, excise, etc. In the course of a few years, certain financial readjustments which local circumstances seemed to call for were made in the case of both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

In the old province of Canada the extinction of the Hudson's Bay Company's claims in Rupert's Land and the Northwest and the acquisition and organization of those vast territories had at different times occupied the attention of the government. In the year 1856 the subject was much debated in the press, and in 1857 Chief Justice Draper was sent to England to discuss the matter. In the speech from the throne in the year following the governor-general said; "Correspondence in relation to the Hudson's Bay Company and its territory will be laid before you. It will be for you to consider the propositions made by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies to the company and to weigh well the bearings of these propositions on the interests and rights of Canada. Papers will also be submitted to you showing clearly the steps taken by the provincial government for the assertion of those interests and rights and for their future maintenance."

It was not, however, till after Confederation that definite action was taken. In the first session of the Dominion Parliament an address to the Queen was adopted embodying certain resolutions moved by the Hon. William McDougall. McDougall and Cartier were sent to England to follow the matter up, and after some months of negotiation they succeeded in arranging for the transfer.

The first province formed out of the ceded territory was Manitoba. The apprehensions of the half-breed population that certain rights, regarded by them as prescriptive, would not be duly protected, retarded for some months the accession of the new province to the Dominion. An expeditionary force under Sir Garnet (later Field-Marshal Viscount) Wolseley was sent to the disturbed region, but before its arrival at Fort Garry (September 24, 1870) all opposition had ceased. The date of the legal creation of the province was July 15, 1870, on which date the Northwest Territories were also placed under a territorial government. The