

deceived and entrapped. As to the point whether the sixty Irishmen had been really entrapped, he read an extract from the *Notes Session* of April last, which stated that the editor had made enquiries, and ascertained from an original document sent from Sprague, Soule and Co., at Boston, to the Provincial Secretary, that they had shipped these men as railway workmen, and not for enlistment. He did not charge Mr. Howe with this fraud, but some of his agents must have been guilty of it. This would show that Mr. Condon was justified in sending the telegraph to warn his countrymen against deception. And yet he had been most severely punished for doing what any other man with the feelings of a man would have done. He asked hon. gentlemen, after the unanswerable evidence he had adduced on this point, how they could sustain a Government in power who had sacrificed their own friends to gratify the feelings of the member for Windsor? But the At'y. General told you that if he had dismissed Mr. Howe his government would have been scattered to the winds,—and, therefore, he must dismiss Mr. Condon.

Hon. Mr. Johnston here stated that he was completely exhausted, and would have to ask the indulgence of the house to finish his speech on Monday. He then took his seat, after having spoken four hours and a half.

MONDAY, Feb. 16th.

After several Petitions and Bills had been laid on the table, the Hon. Mr. Johnston resumed his address. He proceeded to read a paper to the effect that on the 6th April it was communicated to the Provincial Secretary that these men were engaged for the railway. (Mr. Howe rose to explain that it did not touch the point. The telegraph was not submitted to any of the government, nor to the Irish Society, nor was it paid out of the funds of that society.) Mr. Johnston proceeded.—Mr. Condon's acts were not secret, they were open and there was no offence of which the government was ignorant. They knew of the existence of that telegraph in the early part of 1855. He stated another fact that, after his letter appeared recently in answer to Mr. Howe's, several members of the provincial government, whose names he would not mention, expressed their satisfaction at his explanations.—Mr. Condon could not then be charged, with any degree of justice, with having intercepted the enlistment of recruits for the Foreign Legion. He mentioned a case in point, of a number of deserters from the garrison having found their way into the County of Colchester, where four of them were sheltered, sympathized with, and protected, but who would attempt to charge the people who thus sided the deserters with being disloyal?

He next approached the other charges preferred against the government, and proceeded to show that the Attorney General had not even attempted to answer any of them. He stated the charges were, not whether the Educational Bill was right or wrong, but that the government, on a measure that was made prominent in the Governor's speech, had not made up their minds, and had afterwards introduced a measure contrary to that expected from the tenor of that speech. In reference to the Prohibitory Bill, the At'y. General should have used all his influence against it at first, and thus have saved his friends from occupying a false position—that of voting for it, and afterwards voting against it. It was to take away the party character from it that he transferred it to other hands; in his own county many of the Liberals made it an insidious means of obstructing his election. The Municipal Incorporation Bill ought to have been made obligatory, and ought never to have been sent to the country with the optional clause attached to it. He then referred to partizan patronage on the question of education in the county of Annapolis. Referring to Mr. Condon, he had never exhibited so much insubordination as the hon. members for Windsor and Halifax, who had charged the government with indecision and "timidity."

Hon. Mr. Howe rose to explain that the term, "honorable timidities," was first used in the Catholic newspaper,—when he was met with hisses from the Western Gallery—and after expressing the opinion that the galleries were taking unusual liberties, and mentioning the fact that he saw strangers there.—The galleries were cleared giving at the same time various manifestations of disapprobation, and the house adjourned.

TUESDAY, Feb. 17.

A large number of Petitions and Bills of a private nature occupied upwards of an hour. Hon. Mr. Johnston in concluding his address said, he would pass over pages of his minutes in order not to weary the attention of the house. He deprecated the conduct of the galleries on the previous day—it was a violation of the fundamental and constitutional principle of the freedom of debate, and calculated to do greater injury to their own cause.

With regard to the Mines and Minerals, he would do what is honest and just—that in reference to this matter, as in all others, honesty will be found to be the best policy.

The hon. member then proceeded to say that the hon. member for Windsor (Mr. Howe) had given very conclusive evidence of the imbecility of the Government when he had said that he (Mr. Howe) had last Session had opportunity to overturn the Government. Its hold on the confidence and affections of its supporters must have been small if one of its own officers not then in the house had influence enough to overturn it.

The hon. member for Windsor had shown little regard for the constitutional rule or the privileges of the house when he threatened dissolution as he had done, and thus brought the Lieutenant-Governor before the house contrary to the acknowledged rule of Parliament.

Mr. Johnston then stated that he would conclude with a brief recapitulation, and he proceeded as follows:

If any doubt could exist as to the imbecility of the Government last winter, there is no room to doubt their weakness now.

Rebuked, threatened, ridiculed, before the whole people by two of their own officers—the Chief Railway Commissioner and the Queen's Printer—they meekly submitted. At the dictation of these two insubordinates, aided by some followers in this House, they are willing to purchase *leave to live* by the unworthy sacrifice of a political supporter on the poor pretence of an alleged offence of the same nature, but far less aggravated in degree than that perpetrated by those two Government officials and dictators. Outraging by their conduct a portion of their firmest supporters, they now insult their understanding by charging them with dishonor in allying themselves with Protestants. Conservatives of liberal principles and practice; and demanding that they shall remain bound to Protestant Liberals who have abandoned in their practice the liberal principles they have professed.

We are taunted on the alliance of Conservatives and Catholics as if one or both were tainted with political leprosy.

Sir, we are men, as men entitled to meet on the broad ground of a common humanity—our platform is

Equality of Civil and Religious liberty

As Christians, I trust we are wise enough and virtuous enough to know how to enjoy civil freedom and political privileges without the sacrifice on either side of religious independence, a blessing, without which the name of civil liberty were but a mere mockery.

As Citizens, we unite in valuing the free institutions of our country and in the determination to uphold them as they exist in Nova Scotia with inflexible integrity and I trust neither of us can claim precedence of the loyalty and reverence we bear our beloved sovereign as the head of the Empire, or in the love we cherish toward her as the brightest example of all that adorns, elevates, and ennobles, her sex.

The honorable gentleman concluded his address with a very able tribute to the loyalty of Irishmen, and their heroic conduct during the late Crimean war.

After some conversation, Mr. Howe intimated his intention of moving an amendment.

As the dinner hour approached, the Speaker stated that the House would resume at half-past two o'clock.

It was near three o'clock before the galleries were opened.

Hon. Mr. Howe rose and moved an amendment to hon. Mr. Johnston's resolution, to the effect that, in consequence of the great public works in progress, and the necessity of having the public accounts before the House, they proceeded at once to pass the answer to his Excellency's address.

The hon. gentlemen then addressed the house at considerable length.

He commenced by saying, that in moving the amendment, it would be necessary for him to refer to the observations advanced by several gentlemen during the progress of the debate. Unusual liberties were taken by the hon. member from Cumberland. He attributed it to the hon. gentlemen using new to the atmosphere. He reminded him that it is not parliamentary nor courteous for any member to shake his fist, and say he could crush the hon. At'y. General; calling the Financial Secretary a judge; and charging the hon. member for Newport with falsehood. He enforced upon Dr. Tupper a little modesty—to store up wisdom and get understanding, and not consider himself a "forty horse power." Mr. Howe said that there are no other scales in Christendom in which men are weighed more accurately than on the floor of the house. Great friendship is expressed for the Irish. When he (Mr. Howe) went into Cumberland only one Irish Catholic held an office there, although the party who now profess to be such lovers of the Irish had sway there for many years. The first vacancy that occurred there he gave to Patrick Blake a Catholic Irishman, and several other Catholics were soon afterwards appointed to fill other offices. He remembered well the scream about Catholic ascendancy that was heard from one end of Cumberland to the other. If the opposition thought the Catholics ought to have one of the heads of department, how does it happen that during the long period they administered the government of the country, they never gave it to one of them? Several gentlemen had thought fit to alarm the members upon the subject of our revenues—that we are approaching a commercial crisis. If a country has assets enough to pay its debts, and credit enough to get all the money it wants, there is not much danger of a financial crisis. He held in his hand a report prepared by James R. Forman, civil engineer, describing the nature and extent of the public works of the country now in progress.—This report shows that there are 224 miles of railway now in operation and nearly completed, with 76 miles under contract, which will be completed before the close of next year. He only desired fair play. If the government is shattered, his office would be at their disposal, and he had no doubt his conduct would receive a fair and manly investigation from the members of the house. The whole road from Halifax to Windsor will be completed by August next, and within 17 miles of Truro by the end of the year. When the commissioners' accounts are submitted, he would give the opposition from now to Christmas to discover if the funds, or any part of them, have been misappropriated. If there are any charges against the commissioners, let them be made, and a proper investigation take place. From the traffic returns it would appear that the portion of the railway now open has paid its working expenses—the five hundred pounds damage occasioned by the locomotive going off the track, and a handsome sum towards the interest on the expenditure. He was asked at Cumberland: "What traffic will there be when the

road is completed?" Within the last year 81,407 passengers were conveyed over the line, and 6,748 horses. One hundred and seven-five thousand pounds will cover all the other liabilities, and finish the road within 17 miles of Truro. Its financial department stands thus:—Amount paid, £274,000; amount borrowed at 4 per cent., £56,000; amount in provincial notes, £50,000; amount borrowed from Bank of Nova Scotia, at six per cent., £66,000. With regard to his appointment to a Governorship; in his last communication on that subject, he stated he would not be done with his public works until next mid-summer. After the Railroad is fairly under way, and the whole line located and under contract, what has Nova Scotia to prevent him from rising to a position of honorable distinction. Why need the opposition complain? Did not they do their best to obstruct these great public works? What would he care for a foreign governorship if it did not confer honor and distinction upon his country and himself. His first wish was employment in the Colonial Office; and the present Colonial Secretary and his predecessor had promised his fair claims would be considered. The men of these Colonies are cramped and confined. He desired to open for them fields of honorable distinction. If he took the lead, it would be opening up a path that all might follow.

He was accused with turning out Sheriff Chandler of Cumberland. He had no more to do with that than the hon. gentleman had himself. When pressed to remove him he refused—and it was while he (Mr. Howe) was in England that the Sheriff was removed. The government have acted prudently in not filling up the Legislative Council and leaving it without a head—it is fair to the majority of the house that the position should be left as it is. The intellectual effort of the hon. member from Annapolis was alike creditable to him and this house. He would deeply regret if, during the debate, anything should come from him calculated to wound the feelings of that hon. gentleman.

While the hon. gentleman from Annapolis took to himself the credit of being the friend of civil and religious liberty, his conduct while in office did not justify such a conclusion. He also gave a statement of how the religious bodies were represented at the period when he first came into the Legislature. The old quarrel with the Baptists was referred to on the subject of denominational colleges; its fruits in the past were—that it kept the hon. gentleman out of power for ten years. The hon. gentleman is an exceedingly great friend of the Catholics and has taken them under his wing. He wished him a good time of it—he thought he had charmed most wisely and well this time. From '44 to '48 there was not a Catholic at the head of a department, the whole of the Conservatives helped themselves—no share of the plunder fell to the poor Catholics. Why didn't the hon. gentleman from Annapolis pass the Maine Law when he was in the government? Because he wanted the revenue.

The return of the revenue for the past nine years showed that nearly a million of money has been paid into the public treasury. He showed that the revenue had largely increased, and that the road money expended during the Liberal administration exceeded that of the Conservatives nearly £70,000. Large sums were expended on the educational institutions of the country. Nineteen new light-houses have been erected, a lunatic asylum commenced—and all this is done by a government charged with imbecility. The land departments have been consolidated, laws revised, deputy prothonotaries made prothonotaries, electric telegraph established and encouraged, post office transferred, a reduced and uniform postage established, canal property placed on a proper basis, canals commenced, and 76 miles of railway under contract and partly completed. Surely the men who toiled for all these things were not going to abandon their old friends and supporters.

He made happy allusion to Mr. Johnston's ability in defending criminals,—he thought the administration of justice would be benefited if he occupied a seat on the bench. With regard to the trial of the railway rioters, he complained that these men were protected and defended by an organized party who were about the purlieus of the Supreme Court during the trials. Justice was defeated by the organization, at the head of which stood Mr. Wm. Condon, and these men were not left to the due and ordinary course of justice. If when these men were tried, the parties had gone out of court moderately and quietly, and not exhibited so much arrogance, he would not have written a line.

The Catholic talked about praying for its enemies—it had cursed almost every part of him. He remembered when the hon. Mr. Johnston had the courage to defend a Catholic shoemaker against his Bishop—the hon. At'y. General defended. The poor shoemaker was proscribed like Joseph Howe,—the At'y. General was a god—the hon. gentleman from Annapolis a demon!

Mr. Howe went into the Condon story again; he enumerated several acts of kindness conferred on Mr. C. and several members of his family, and showed that he actually received a larger salary than Mr. Bell, a venerable and worthy member of the party, received as Chairman of the Board of Works; and that the salaries received by two of Mr. C.'s relatives and himself amounted to as much as the salary of one of the public departments. He received by last mail a letter from the Hon. Mr. Galdstone, who entirely acquitted him (Mr. Howe) of all blame on the enlistment question. He explained how the Boston packet agents came to consider the men by the *George Washington* as railway labourers—because they were not informed of his mission, as it was necessary to preserve the utmost secrecy. He went into further explanations, which will appear in the official reports. He stated the character of the *Citizen* newspaper. He adduced another fact—that when, in preparing for

the last Irish Society ball, it was suggested to place the name of Queen Victoria in jets of gas, Mr. Condon was the first to object to it.

Dr. Tupper followed.—He said he had never violated the decencies of public life. Associated with the sons of toil, he had never been a political adventurer, nor could he be described as an ingrate traitor. Having irretrievably embarked the revenues of the country in a great public undertaking, which, by the hon. chairman's own acknowledgement, we are not equal to, there are more reasons than one why he should like to escape from the railway board. He never denounced him as a public man. The representatives of Cumberland having been treated with ignominy and contempt, he felt last winter that he was at liberty to place the government in other hands. With that view he visited the hon. gentleman twice. He had made the proposal with the concurrence of both the Catholic and Protestant members of his own party. As it was designed that the Hon. J. W. Johnston was to be elevated to the bench, that gentleman alone was not made acquainted with what was going on.—"But," said Dr. Tupper, "Mr. Howe has not told you the whole of what took place. He has not told you that he assented to the arrangement; that situated as he was, he could not take any open part in the breaking up of the Government, but that he manifested the utmost readiness to join in the movement, once it was shown him that a party could be formed, and after alluding to the manner in which he was forced out of the government, said that it would afford him the opportunity of "cutting Bill Young's throat!"

Mr. Howe gave it an emphatic denial—was proceeding to explain, when Mr. Marshall moved an adjournment which was carried.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 18.

The house met about seven o'clock. Several Bills and Petitions were presented. After a short time the adjourned debate was resumed.

Mr. Killam addressed the house at considerable length in favor of the resolution. The liabilities of the Province consequent on the introduction of railways occupied a large portion of his speech.

Mr. C. Campbell referred to the incompetency of the Administration, and its utter failure to bring down measures for the good of the country. He referred to the inefficiency of the Crown Land offices, the system was a disgrace to the country. He had made application, and was unable to obtain a statement of lands granted in his county for the last twenty years. The Government had failed to secure to the country a Statute Labor Law. He said the Railroad was originated to place power in the hands of the Government. It was a speculation, and the bubble was about to burst,—and the chairman had intimated his intention to get out of the way before the explosion took place. The Government was neither strong enough to enforce the laws, nor pure enough to keep themselves in office, without resorting to that which is not commendable. The Administration, having lost the confidence of the country, it was time it should sink to rise no more!

The House adjourned and resumed again at half-past three o'clock.

Hon. Attorney General would content himself with but a few observations in closing the debate. The statement made by the hon. member for Annapolis that after the celebrated letters of the hon. member for Windsor he saw it was inevitable they must come into power,—that the Conservative party, to carry out the leading views of their party, were equally ready to receive a section from the Protestant as well as from the Catholic body, in order to overthrow the present administration.

Had it not been for the sudden and fierce quarrel between the hon. gentleman from Windsor and the Catholic body, which has stirred up and agitated the passions and severed ties almost as dear as life, the administration would have stood at this hour in the full confidence of this House.

A new power has entered into the Councils of Nova Scotia, mysterious and unseen. He asked in what position a great public work—the railways of this province—will be placed if transferred to the hands of its avowed enemies. Under the careful supervision of the Executive Government, and the judicious management of the commissioners, the utmost care, skill and economy has been exercised in its entire management; and search the accounts as you will, they will be found to present a true and faithful account of its operations. Is the decision of the feeble minority upon the subject of the mines and minerals to be the prevailing opinion of the new government. He was pleased to inform the house that the negotiations now pending are likely to lead to a satisfactory and happy termination of this question. The Maine liquor law, as a government question; the ascension to power of its leader has been the defeat of that measure. What is to become of the ballot? Will their Catholic allies join them on the ballot question? If the ballot is carried in this country, it will not be with the Catholic aid. We have some precious fun before us. It was amusing to hear the hon. gentleman claiming the credit of endowing St. Mary's College, when he—the At'y. General—recalled that the bill for its incorporation was drawn up by himself.

He did not fear the issue of the debate—he knew the way every man would vote. It would not be the tight division anticipated—because he knew the influence at work, and that some of the members of this House were voting against their own convictions.

Mr. Tobin felt some difficulty in approaching the question after the eloquent speeches from the hon. At'y. General and the hon. Mr. Howe; but observations had been made which he could not allow to pass unanswered. If any secret in-

fluence is operating unknown to his hon. gentlemanly principles enu... him to change never have left ed their prin leader that it the governm offering opposi Mr. Howe and provided we uphold any; any individual le would star Dr. Brown but it was t He had taken he believed t Mr. Cham Educational men; yet he views in his education he earnings, an or dishonest Johnston w Blapst body here to sup occurred eit somewhere. to form con peracute at rights and religiously m Mr. McK desire to ru They have ground that the breasts the House. Mr. McL showed the government Catholics. The hon. done a sing the Catholic is the real c on the Rail to the trial and the cor Hon. Mr. the hands offer explan creting, n Cumberland would mak the division The men explanation with the di Messrs. which they taken. Hon. Mr. The Cl amendment Mr. John numbers s For:—A shall, Whi Wade, Be Ryder, B Churchill, Jane, To Smyth. Against McKenzie Robertson Sol. Genev son, Ann 21. Messrs seat, leav to those v stood 28 The ho Consider petitions. Hon. A making a tion on recent ve while th dard, in ment, h convince ministr of its operations. Is the decision of the feeble minority upon the subject of the mines and minerals to be the prevailing opinion of the new government. He was pleased to inform the house that the negotiations now pending are likely to lead to a satisfactory and happy termination of this question. The Maine liquor law, as a government question; the ascension to power of its leader has been the defeat of that measure. What is to become of the ballot? Will their Catholic allies join them on the ballot question? If the ballot is carried in this country, it will not be with the Catholic aid. We have some precious fun before us. It was amusing to hear the hon. gentleman claiming the credit of endowing St. Mary's College, when he—the At'y. General—recalled that the bill for its incorporation was drawn up by himself. He did not fear the issue of the debate—he knew the way every man would vote. It would not be the tight division anticipated—because he knew the influence at work, and that some of the members of this House were voting against their own convictions. Mr. Tobin felt some difficulty in approaching the question after the eloquent speeches from the hon. At'y. General and the hon. Mr. Howe; but observations had been made which he could not allow to pass unanswered. If any secret in-