

SIR HOWARD DOUGLAS.

Speech of Mr. HOLME on seconding the nomination of Sir Howard Douglas, as a Candidate to represent Liverpool in Parliament:

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,—We are again about to be plunged into the excitement of an election, but I hope it will pass by with less than its usual turmoil. If, in being deprived of the services of Mr. Creswell, we had had any trouble in finding a suitable successor, I should have experienced some difficulty in addressing you to-day.—But it ought to be gratifying to the inhabitants of this great town to know, that such is its character for loyalty and public spirit, that one of the loftiest order and the most exalted rank may feel proud in representing its opinions in parliament. We applied to Mr. Creswell during a period of great excitement to permit us to put him in nomination, and most nobly did he respond to the call. Through him and his noble colleague did we fight the battle and gain an important victory. I call it important, because Sir Robert Peel's motion of want of confidence in the Melbourne administration was only carried by a majority of one; and had we not on the occasion to which I allude, ejected Mr. Ewart from the representation of Liverpool, Lord Melbourne would have had a majority of one, and that majority with him and his forlorn hope, would have been a sufficient inducement for them to misconduct the business of the country. A second time did we fight the battle, and on that occasion had little difficulty in gaining it. The eminent talents of Mr. Creswell are now required to adorn the bench, and by a salutary provision of our constitution, to render justice pure and unsullied at the fountain, he has done with the political arena. The extent of his legal acquirements, united to the excellency of his personal character, justify the choice which the premier has made, and while he will add dignity to the seat of judgment, all will admit that the ermine will fall with grace on a distinguished lawyer and an excellent man. In your name, my fellow townsmen,—for I leave the merchants to speak for themselves,—I thank him for the alacrity with which he responded to our call, and for the faithfulness with which he has supported those great and vital principles, for the maintenance of which he was elected our representative; and you will join with me in the wish that his career as a judge may be as successful as it has been as our advocate, and that his legal knowledge may now be serviceable to men of all parties and of all conditions. I will now say a few words in reference to the hon. baronet, who is again a candidate for our suffrages. The scientific acquirements of Sir Howard Douglas, his knowledge of commercial matters from his long and brilliant governments in Canada and the Ionian Islands, the experiments of a life of profound investigation and reflection, his high military reputation, and his great moral worth, all point him out as eminently qualified to represent the opinions of this great community. Do you wish to know his feelings on protestant education?—While Governor of New-Brunswick, he founded a College at Fredericton, subscribed himself a munificent sum towards its erection, and promised to procure from government a sum equal to that subscribed by the inhabitants. This he performed, and in addition founded a scholarship at his own cost, as the Douglas medal of that college testifies. Sir Howard is the firm and uncompromising supporter of education based on scripture, such education as we all approve of, and such as we have re-

solved to maintain. Some of our opponents have said—'True we admit Sir Howard to be an excellent officer and a good man, but we want a commercial man to represent a commercial town.' Well, sir, let us meet this question at first where is the consistency of those who raise the objections? Instead of assertions let us look at actions. Who brought forward Mr. Brougham for Liverpool?—was he a commercial man? Mr. Creevy? Was he one? Who nominated the Earl of Sefton?—The noble lord was not a commercial man. Who gave us Mr. Ewart? Was he a commercial man? Mr. Elphinstone? Was he one? Lord Palmerston? Was he one? Why, sir, the whig party themselves are inconsistent, for with the exception of our two townsmen, of whom at least may be said to have brought forward, I can only recollect one gentleman having any pretensions to be a commercial man, whom they have brought before us. Mr. Morris, of whom none of us have ever heard before, and many of us will probably never hear again, was a tiny drop precipitated by the flying colours of radicalism, and as suddenly evaporated in a gleam of conservative sunshine, which that moment shot forth. I will recollect that Mr. Canning was objected to, not because he was an unfit representative for a commercial community, but because he was identified with those glorious principles which we are anxious to see paramount in the government of England, and which thank God, are now paramount. Mr. Huskisson, too, a most suitable representative for a commercial community, was objected to on similar grounds, and it requires little sagacity to see that it is not so much the commercial but the political unfitness of Sir Howard Douglas that renders him the object of their antipathy. Let me familiarly illustrate my meaning. An architect may be a competent judge of the stability of an edifice, and may be acquainted with all the details necessary for its construction, and yet he may be unable himself to erect the structure. An engineer may be well acquainted with the nice contrivances, and the various motions required in the steam-engine, and yet be unable to forge the rods or to cast the cylinder; and so many a man of talents, by experience and observation, by scientific acquirements and profound research, be well acquainted with the theory of commerce, and with the wants and productions of every nation,—he may possess a knowledge of international law and of those fiscal regulations which are the hinges of commerce, the air it breathes, and yet he may not, strictly speaking, be a commercial man. As well might we argue that a merchant should not be a shipowner unless he can build and rig and steer his ship. I grant that a knowledge of commerce is required in all our legislators, not merely in those who represent Liverpool, Hull, and Bristol, but in those who represent every constituency; for a member is not to legislate for Liverpool alone, but for commercial England, for manufacturing England, and what, I trust, she will ever remain, that we may be as independent as possible of foreign nations for the bread we eat—I mean for agricultural England. Is not Lord Sandon as fit a representative for commercial Liverpool as Lord John Russell for commercial London? (Yes.) And will not Sir Howard Douglas be a more suitable representative for this community than Mr. Gibson for Manchester, Mr. Fox for the Tower Hamlets or the Hon. Mr. Berkely for Bristol?—(Yes.) And yet we hear nothing of the commercial unfitness of these gentlemen; and

it is probable, that had Sir Howard Douglas been a whig, those who object to him now would suddenly have discovered in him the most suitable capacities, together with all the virtues that can adorn and dignify human nature. Sir, England has now arrived at a critical period of her history. Her dominions are boundless; her influence is unlimited; her language is heard in almost every place where the winds blow, or the ocean rolls.—The enterprise of her merchants has penetrated every clime, and her looms supply the human race in a hundred colonies and dependencies. And although for a period—I trust a brief period—commercial gloom has overspread our land, and many of our population are experiencing great distress, yet still her wealth and industry exceeds that of any other nation; and by skill and management, and sound legislation, the sun of prosperity will again kindle that wealth and industry into a new flame, to give employment to our artisans, and enable the country to develop her mighty resources. But all this grandeur—all this extent of empire—may have its limits. Nations, like individuals, have their rise and fall. Great Britain has been victorious in war and prosperous in peace, because she has been governed on fixed principles, and has possessed a constitution which has repressed tyranny and spoliation from whatever quarter it has proceeded—whether from the monarch or the people—which has zealously guarded the individual liberty of all, and secures to all the possessions of that property which is the fruit of honest industry—which offers an asylum to the victims of tyranny from every land—which encourages virtue, while it discourages vice—which invigorates, while it cherishes and sympathises where it cannot heal.—But above all England has risen triumphant, and has gone on step by step to her present greatness, since she became protestant England—and as long as she remains the depository of divine truth—as long as she nationally recognises the power and the worship of Him by whom kings reign and nations flourish or fade—while she conquers, not to aggrandise, but to protect—while she upholds a pure church, and her constitution remains based on eternal truth, which is interwoven with her structure and pervades her sentiments—so long will England flourish and maintain her glorious supremacy. But if she is smitten with the spirit of republicanism—if she discards the lessons of wisdom which history teaches, and lapses into that latitudinarianism which is the indubitable precursor of national decay—not all the vigour of her fleets and armies, not all the wisdom of her senators can save her, but she will sink into decrepitude, and finally into ruin. It is because Sir Howard Douglas is a man of protestant conservatism, who will uphold the British constitution in all its essential elements—who will give protection to national industry, and foster national feeling—who will not be dazzled with the specious and tinsel theories of the day, nor sacrifice that constitution at the shrine of liberalism or expediency, that I call on you my fellow-townsmen, to identify yourselves with him on this occasion, again to display your loyalty, and again to uphold the character of our town. I will not enter upon any of those great questions which agitate the community at this time, as it would lead me into a long speech. I will conclude by seconding the motion of Mr. Robinson, and requesting you with one heart and one mind to discard every feeling. I am convinced you will return to Parliament as your re-

presentative, unfettered and unshackled, the friend and comrade of the illustrious Wellington. (Long and continued cheering.)

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the CHATHAM POST OFFICE, March, 1842.

Armstrong James	Loye Mrs care of B.
Chatham	Millar
Aitken Wm. 2. engi-	Loughlin Catherine
neer	Chatham
Butler Wm. Poke-	Murphy Henry care of
monche	W. Rafter
Brehaut S. Thomas	Maugavire Ann
Chatham	Chatham
Brown Robert	Matrer John shoe
Fraser's Island	maker
Bateman Joseph	Mooney Patrick care
Nelson	of Mr Egan
Bolph Margaret	Moore Sarah Nelson
Chatham	Megary Charles
Brockway Daniel	Chatham
Chatham	Mellon Wm. shoe
Barry Peter at Canard's	maker
Yard	Maria Timothy
Broderick Wm. Oak	Napan
Point	Monroe Wm. Black
Barry David shipyard	River
Brown Thomas jun.	McFidle Francis
Conill Patrick care of	Chatham
E. Pollard	McLeod Mary
Campbell Donald care	Chatham
of Fraser & Massor	McElery Peter care of
Connors Thomas	the Postmaster
Nappan	McLean John
Clark James care of	Escuminas
John Russell	McFarlane Margaret
Clifford John joiner	care of T King
Chatham	McGinnis Donald
Cameron Angus black-	Chatham
smith	McKay Mary care of
Carroll James 2	P. Moar
Caulfield Wm. care of	McFarlan Mary
W. Tobin	Chatham
Doyle John care of J	McSegan Francis care
& G. Parker	of Mr Canard
Doyle Peter Chatham	McNeil Archibald,
Dutton Joseph do.	care of Mr Russell
Duncan Sarah do	McMillan Donald
Forbes Thomas	blacksmith
Fullerton Mrs. care of	Noonan John Chatham
A. Fraser, Esq.	McFarlan Mary Burnt
Ferguson Duga d care	Church
of Mr Canard	McCarthy Simon care
Forsyth Martin care of	of John Harley
W. Lyons	O'Brien Wm. Chatham.
Finnelly Thomas care	O'Connell James care
of Gil Ran. & Co.	of John Hea
Forth Wm. cooper	O'Brien Dennis
Gillis Ann care of R.	Chatham
Morrow	Preston George sail or
Gordon Wm. care of	shoemaker
A. McBeath	Parsons Joseph
Grey Ann care of Mrs.	Chatham
Haddow	Power Thomas care of
Griffith Thomas ship	J. Samuel
wright	Power Catharine care
Geason Daniel	of Mrs. Joseph
Chatham	Pollard Edward
Harly Dennis do	Chatham
Hardy Thomas block	Ross John Black River
maker	Ryan Patrick care of
Howard Thomas	P. Butler
shoemaker	Riordan Mathew, care
Hutchill Ann Chatham	of Mr Canard
Jackson Anthony do	Simpson Mark ship
James P. do	carpenter
Jardine John Napan	Smith Catharine care
Jardine Joseph do	of M. Tierney
Johnston John	Straig Nicholas
carpenter	Chatham
Johnston David	Sullivan Timothy
shoemaker	shoemaker
Jardine Samuel	Stanley James chatham
Napan	Tonhey Michael
Kelly Edward care of	care of Mr Canard
Mr Egan	Wise George chatham
Keough James	Walsh Thomas joiner
Napan	White Thomas
Lanagan Martin care	chatham
of E. Pollard	Walsh Mathew care
Lawson George ship	of John Hea
carpenter	Wakem John sailmaker
Lewis John care of W	Wheeler Patrick care
Williston	of Dr. Benson

All LETTERS not called for within Three Months from this date, will be sent to the General Post Office as Dead Letters.

JAMES CAIE, POST MASTER.

Persons asking for any of the above Letters, will please say they are advertised.

NOTICE

The Subscriber informs all Persons wishing to take Passage with him to Fredericton, that they will be conveyed from Chatham to Newcastle, on the mornings of Monday and Thursday, by their notifying Mr. McBeath of such desire.

JAMES M. KELLEY.

February 1, 1842.

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