

sources in electioneering tactics he could avail nothing against the feeling of indignation in the country.

He considered the triumphant return of Mr. Donkin by a majority of nearly 200, tone of the largest ever thrown—as a proof that the administration was unfairly formed, in violation of the present constitution, and represented a party that was in a minority.

The appointment of the Solicitor General was next alluded to. Mr. McCully was chosen to save their political existence; they knew that the appointment of any gentleman of the Assembly would take away their slender majority, as they had no lawyer in the Assembly who dare appeal to the people.

When they appealed to the County of Victoria what was the result? The same unequivocal condemnation of the acts of the administration was given in that county.

He would further show that this Government was now acting in violation of the law. In the speech read that day they were found taking credit to themselves for acts which would furnish their reputation as statesmen. They had referred to their management of the railway. Why they knew full well that the present chairman has been acting in violation of the law. And, though it has been always expected in new countries that the railway would double its receipts in the first three years, yet what has been the case with us? Notwithstanding the visit of the Prince and the "Great Eastern," notwithstanding a year of unexampled prosperity in trade, we closed the year with the paltry and insignificant increase of less than \$10,000. Such a result, instead of being a subject of congratulations, must rather bring dismay to those who have been hopefully looking forward to the future of that great work.

A law was passed unanimously, and again confirmed at the last session, that the Insane Asylum should have the supervision of nine gentlemen of influence and respectability, chosen in the community, irrespective of any party consideration altogether.—Where is that law now? Treated with the utmost disregard; and the Asylum is managed without a single Commissioner.

The recent elections of Victoria and Cumberland placed the government in the position resting upon no other foundation than the support which they derive from two gentlemen who have, by their own votes recorded on the Journals of the house, expressed their unequivocal condemnation of the course its members had pursued.

But that was not all; in the presence of some 400 of his constituents, Mr. Campbell stated, a few weeks ago, that if the present administration undertook to build an inch of railway he would at once abandon them; and yet, he stands to-day one of the members of a government who had proposed an extension of the railway. Mr. Campbell had showed his opinion of his colleagues and their party by another statement; he said before a large meeting in Weymouth, when I had not referred to the subject, that one of the government, Mr. Archibald, was guilty of bribery, and that he had insisted, as one of the committee on the case, that he should pay the penalty of £100. (Dr. Tupper here turned to Mr. Campbell to know if it was not so, and Mr. C. said, I did say so.) These gentlemen call themselves a government! Why, the sooner the President of the Council disbands such a council as that, and throws himself into the hands of the people, the better will be his position before the country, otherwise he will be considered as a man who would sink his public honor, his every principle, his public character, in order that he may continue to grasp office in defiance of the well understood and clearly expressed will of the people.—(Applause from the gallery.)

Hon. Provincial Secretary would be most reluctant to have the galleries cleared, but it was essential that order should be preserved, and if subjected to further interruption he should insist on circumscribing the privileges of the public. He referred to a resolution supported by Mr. Campbell and Mr. Hatfield; he (Mr. H.) could easily imagine the use made of it in Digby and Argyle. Consider the inequality; there was the hon. member for Cumberland with his fluency of speech, plausibility of manner, and parliamentary experience, pitted against his hon. friend Mr. Campbell, who was accustomed, to commerce, agriculture, and to live in peace and harmony with his neighbors, but was not much accustomed to public speaking. When going he might have sent his card with a polite invitation to the Attorney General or the President of Council to attend and confute him if they could. No such thing;—off he started alone to hold one-sided meetings and arraign Mr. Campbell, who he was aware, was "not his match." To-day a letter had been presented to him signed by 40 persons out of a meeting of sixty who declared that they never did hold up their hands as stated for the hon member's resolution.

Mr. Wade.—Names?

Hon. Provincial Secretary.—You will get the names in due time. But suppose the people of Argyle had been deluded into a too sanguine belief in the infallibility and accuracy of the statements;—surely they ought to be afforded an opportunity for recanting their errors.

He then referred to the Asylum for the insane. Did the member for Cumberland tell them that the Government never touched the Lunatic Asylum until the Board of Commissioners came to the Executive and demanded an enquiry into the condition of the Asylum? Dissatisfaction was unknown to the Government till disclosed by the parties in charge. The Superintendent, the Steward—all were seemingly at war,—and at last the Chief Justice, himself and the Attorney General were appointed a committee to investigate the state of affairs. Did he wish to amuse the house, a discussion of the condition in which that public work was found

would afford ample material. When the member from Londonderry exposed the extravagance of the institution, we sat all aghast; nine Commissioners were supposed to be very essential.

Dr. Tupper.—Under the law.

Hon. Prov. Secretary.—was looking to the profits as well as the law. (Laughter.) Its legitimate objects were being fulfilled; its expenses were economised and brought within a reasonable compass.

A word or two respecting the Chief Justice. Now that the party conflicts in which that gentleman engaged were over,—after he had assumed his seat on the Bench, it seemed scarcely just or generous that hon. gentlemen should indulge there and elsewhere in continued reiterated personal attacks on him. His (Mr. H.'s) mind reverted to a period when, in the midst of the warmest party conflicts, a vacancy occurred in the situation of Master of the Rolls, and a rumor reached the house that the member for Annapolis was to take the office. The recollection of the lull in the conflict that ensued was still fresh in his mind, as for several days he watched that gentleman sitting opposite, and thought—"Will he take it or not?" And if on his death bed he (Mr. H.) would still affirm that while he so reflected, he had looked into his own heart and asked the question of himself—"Will you have Christian charity enough to forbear, should he accept the office, from following him to his position, and assailing him there?" And his heart had given the response, for he had said to himself—"If by the chances and fortunes of party he goes on the bench, from that hour will my lips be closed against attacking him,—his name shall never again be mentioned with disrespect." The strains of his hon. friend's eloquence were yet reverberating in their ears, and the inquiry often was—"how are we to supply the gap his absence has created?" His indomitable industry—his legal acumen—his constitutional information—had been invaluable; while for his forensic eloquence, his acquired lore, or his legislative ability, the Chief Justice had been alike distinguished; his life was devoted to the development of great public questions. The rancor and bitterness of past struggles should now be forgotten.

Hon. Prov. Sec. referred to the election in Cumberland, he stated on the hustings that the government could always win Cumberland when they had a clever fellow to spare; having nobody sufficiently able to fill the present Chief Justice's place, they took a plain country merchant, a worthy respectable man, but hardly of the sort calculated to take up the loose threads of the county left by the talented gentleman that lately represented it.

Having referred to the conduct of Mr. Hatfield and Colin Campbell as being quite justifiable he went on to say that all he wanted was a fair opportunity to present his policy and vindicate his conduct. He would say to the gentlemen opposite, that the railway policy was left to the house clearly and distinctly by the Executive government; gentlemen could vote for or against it as they pleased.

Mr. Hatfield said that the hon member for Cumberland (Dr. Tupper) has been holding meetings at Argyle, Tuskent and Pubnico, to endeavor to stir up my constituents against me. In the places where the hon. member held the meetings the people were generally opposed to me, but I want to see those who voted for me to sign a petition for my resignation, and then perhaps I may think about retiring.

Dr. Tupper said that at Pubnico, when the question was finally put, not a single man could be found who would vote for Mr. Hatfield or the government he supports. Surely after this no government could stand before the country that depended upon the votes of Messrs Hatfield and Campbell for its existence.

Mr. Hatfield said the influential men mentioned by the member for Cumberland as taking an active part at the meeting, had turned against him because they were disappointed. They wanted him to obtain the dismissal of certain office-holders, so that they might take their places. If he resigned now, he had little fear but that he would regain his seat.

Mr. Townsend was astonished to hear the hon. gentleman Mr. Hatfield assert that only 14 hands were held up at Tuskent meeting in favor of the resolution; he was present himself and he was prepared to say that instead of 14, there were nearly 150 in favor and 3 against. At Argyle and Pubnico the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Hatfield thought it would be better to go on with the business of the country instead of fighting with each other like dogs.

Hon. Mr. Wier begged to remind the hon member for Cumberland that when charging the government that there were certain divine laws which it was equally necessary to observe—that side by side with the Divine injunction—"thou shalt do no murder, thou shalt not steal"—was to be found another, "thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."

Dr. Tupper had but a word to say in reply. After having been invited by the hon. Pro. Sec. to a fair and courteous discussion of the question under debate, and not having himself transgressed the rules of decorum, he was astonished to hear a member of the government rise, and without adducing a single argument in support of his position, make use of the ungentlemanly and insulting language he had just heard—language which should be sufficient to exclude him from any respectable assemblage, and which was alike disgraceful to the hon member himself and to the party to which he belonged.

Hon. Mr. Wier.—Mr. Speaker, if I have infringed the decorum of debate, I beg to express my regret, but I have only followed the example of the hon. gentleman opposite.

Hon. Mr. Howe hoped that there would be an end of this sort of thing, and that in future the

Speaker would promptly suppress any approach to unparliamentary language.

Hon. Mr. Johnston thoroughly understood the question and though hon. gentlemen need not be at such pains to disguise its character; two had been returned to support the then government and oppose the party now in power; they did support them until the administration was defeated and the present government formed by means which the constituencies of these two gentlemen as well as themselves, had reprobated; that was the simple fact; The Provincial Secretary had said that he (Mr. J.) been appointed to the bench, he would not have followed him there with vituperation and abuse; he believed that hon. member incapable of doing so; why should he? if the office had been attained in despite of the constitution—if he had disgraced himself by lending his support to a violation of the law, the hon gentleman would have been justified in following him with the sternest reprobation; so with Judge Dodd—that gentleman was under no obligation to the hon member because he did not abuse him; his position had been legally and fairly won, and he was entitled to immunity from attack; as to the railway and Lunatic Asylum, the hon member seemed to forget that the great complaint was that the government had violated the law and had exhibited a reckless disregard of Legislative action; it would require a much better excuse than any yet offered to justify the course pursued.

Mr. Chambers could not understand upon what grounds hon. gentlemen questioned the course pursued by Mr. Campbell and Mr. Hatfield when it was still fresh in the recollection of the house that nine gentlemen, elected to support a particular government, had crossed the house in one day, and defeated that government.

Mr. Tobin referred to the fact that none of these nine gentlemen who went across the floors of the house were rejected in an appeal to their constituents. It was patent, he went on to say, that the party in power were formed by an evasion of the constitution and the law. The very action of the government last year in regard to the water bill for city of Halifax was sufficient to condemn them in his opinion. The sad fire, the effects of which could be seen from the windows, was a sufficient commentary upon the action of the President of the Council in impeding the progress of that bill.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said that no water could have prevented the fire progressing farther. If the city brought in a good measure, he would give it his best consideration.

Mr. Shannon stated facts which showed that if there had been more water on the night of the fire it would never have proceeded as far as it did.

FRIDAY, Feb. 1.

The House sat with closed doors from 3 to 4 o'clock.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

Mr. MacFarlane spoke in reprobation of the government particularly in reference to the initiation of money votes. He reviewed the proposals made in the opening Speech to favor certain public works in some counties. Some of these had long been before the House and country. Other counties he thought would have just cause to complain if their claims were not also considered.

Hon. Provincial Secretary assured gentlemen on both sides that the Government meant to act in good faith with all parties and regard every portion of the Province. Respecting Pugwash to which Mr. MacF. alluded, he said he was now in communication with Mr. Boltenhouse on the subject of connecting that place with the Gulf Steamers.

Mr. Bourinot complained that a change in postal arrangements in Cape Breton, agreed to last year, had not been carried out. He spoke of the proposed alteration in the Representation, and said that a Bill—if based on population—would receive his support.

Mr. Wade had opposed the measure giving the initiation of money votes to the Government and thought it a very dangerous power. The erection of a public wharf at Digby he said was a matter of great importance, and had been long needed. Mr. W. took up the position of his colleague and Mr. Hatfield and challenged the Prov. Secretary himself to run with him the county of Digby. He knew the sentiments of the people right well and was quite prepared to risk their decision. He read the card issued by Mr. Hatfield, previous to last election to shew that he was pledged to support the late government. He considered that although the Prov. Secretary might bring forward a railroad measure on his own responsibility, yet the other members of government must be held responsible.

Hon. Colin Campbell read a paper purporting to be a speech on the question, and on his own position in the House. As to the Attorney General he repeated that he said, he ought to have been fined ("hear" from the Opposition) but that not suiting the Committee it was left to the House to decide, consequently he retained his seat. He justified his votes of last winter on the score of economy, and charged his colleague Mr. Wade with changing sides on former occasions.

Mr. Wade said that his subsequent elections

by largely increased majorities shewed that in doing so he represented his constituents. Mr. W. then read a letter from Mr. Campbell to Mr. Bent of Digby stating that if his constituents were dissatisfied and 500 would sign a requisition he would resign. Mr. W. also read a requisition signed by over 500 persons asking Mr. Campbell to resign, and also Mr. C.'s refusal to do so.

Mr. C. Campbell here read a memorial from 39 of his constituents at Montague stating that not over 60 persons were present at the late political meeting held there and that they are satisfied with his conduct.

Dr. Tupper arose and charged the last speaker with dishonorable conduct in making statements he could not substantiate. He said "I will sir, place him in a position before this country that will not only render his word, but his oath impotent to tarnish the character of—Cries of "order," &c., here arose, amidst which the Speaker ordered the galleries to be cleared. The House sat with closed doors considering the question of order the remainder of the day.

SATURDAY, Feb. 2nd.

Mr. Bourinot asked if the Government intended to do any thing for the relief of the poor settlements in Cape Breton, now in a starving condition.

Hon. Mr. Howe did not consider the case so urgent.

As the different clauses of the Address were read referring to the Prince's visit—the Volunteers—the Railroad, the views of the opposition and government on the ball, cost of furniture, the treatment of the Volunteers at Windsor, &c. &c., were expressed by several members.

The house adjourned at 4 past 6 o'clock.

Yesterday afternoon the Hon. Mr. Johnston moved an amendment to the Address, respecting its Railway policy, as propounded to the House on the previous day by the Hon. Provincial Secretary, and declaring want of confidence in the Government.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrington.

Horton Academy.

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Jan. 2.

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Jan. 3.

A. S. H.

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