

pions of reform in government, and the determined enemy of the coterie which at that time controlled the affairs of the Province. The part he played in these constitutional, and legislative reforms has no doubt been overshadowed by the names of some of his able, and brilliant cotemporaries. In the different Houses of which he was a member were several of the best speakers, and some of the ablest men who ever took part in our public affairs—such as S. G. W. Archibald, Halliburton, John Young (Agricola), C. R. Fairbanks, Richard J. Uniacke, Joseph Howe, Johnston, Wilkins and others with whom he either acted, or to whom he was opposed. It is very probable that his name was to a great extent lost to the public view for another reason. Just about the time the reforms he had long advocated were successfully accomplished under the leadership of Howe, Stewart left the popular branch, and was made a member of the newly constituted Legislative Council. In the course of eight or nine years more he was elevated to the Bench, and thus entirely withdrew from public life. Howe too, the great popular hero, went further in the pursuit of governmental reform than Stewart was willing to go. This led to a rupture in their political relations, and eventually to open enmity between them. Stewart who had been hitherto the active opponent of the government accepted a seat in the Executive Council, and vigorously opposed the measures which Howe was advocating.

As indicating the intimate relations between them the following letter, the original of which is in the possession of Howe's son will be interesting—It was written on the 2nd March, 1835 just after Howe had made his famous speech to the jury in the great Libel Case.

DEAR HOWE:—I congratulate you on your splendid defence. I hope ere to-morrow at this time that the jury will have done their duty as well as you did yours. On the whole it was performed admirably except that it was as regards the law too deferential to the court; however *nil desperandum*. You have a jury of Nova Scotians. In the meantime pray let me see your last New Brunswick paper.