

by the Atty. General: He kept the House laughing for ten minutes with ludicrous commentaries. The Atty. General had bitterly complained of the opening line:

"The Lord of the Bedchamber sat in his shirt,"

Mr Howe said that it was the first time he had suspected that to hint that Noblemen wore shirts, was a grave offence, to be prosecuted, in the high Court of Parliament, by an Attorney General. Had the Author said that the Lord of the Bedchamber had no shirt, or that he stuck through his pantaloons, there might have been good ground of complaint. There was a little Poem of Hood's, that began thus—

"With fingers weary and worn,
With eyelids heavy and red,
A woman sat in unwomanly rags,
Plying her needle and thread,
Stitch I Stitch I Stitch I
In poverty, hunger and dirt,
And still, with a voice of dolorous pitch,
She sang "the Song of the Shirt,"

The Author of these lines has recently been pensioned and I have no doubt, whenever our "Song of the Shirt" is brought to the notice of Her Gracious Majesty, which it must be, now that it has become an important State Paper, she will be equally mindful of the merits of the Author.

I come now to the Paper of the 10th of June, and mean to fulfill the pledge with which I set out, by showing that every article in the Nova Scotian, to which the Attorney General takes exception, was called for by an insidious defamatory publication, put forth by the official servant of the Government. This, which I confess I wrote, is an answer to a long one, in the Executive Organ of the 20th May. That is coarse and brutal throughout: it accuses me of wishing to be "at the head of a tyrannical and oppressive Government." It reiterates the monstrous falsehood—a thousand times repeated—that I demanded leave of the Lieutenant Governor "to let me form a Party Government," when I never proposed to him to form any Council, either before or after the Elections, in which the Conservatives were not to have had four or five seats. As a specimen of the high compliments paid to the Opposition, it is only necessary to say that they are styled "a band of Brigands." Was it to be expected, then, that I should put the buttons on the foils, in defending my friends and myself from such an assailant? Out of five columns of calm and good humoured argument, the Attorney General has selected a single passage—and that, taken in connection with the line of reasoning I have pursued, and the article to which it was an answer, carries with it its own justification:

- * Suppose, and his voice half recovered its tone,
- * You ask them to dinner, he cried,
- * And when you can get them aloof and alone.
- * Let threats and persuasion be tried.
- * If you swear you'll dissolve you may frighten a few,
- * You may wheedle and coax a few more,
- * If the old ones look knowing, stick close to the new,
- * And wo yet opposition may flourish.
- * For a month I have labored divisions to sow,
- * And S—y has lled like a Turk,
- * And M—r has feasted, and J— you know
- * Is nearly knocked up with hard work.
- * But still, in close column, they stand and they fight,
- * And the country is getting on fire,
- * And the County of Hants sent a squadron last night,
- * To ask W— at once to retire."
- * I'll do it, my D—dy—I'll do it this night,
- * Party Government's still I eschew,
- * But if a few parties will set set you all right,
- * I'll give them, and you may come too.

The Romans, of old, when to battle they press'd,
Consulted the entrails, 'tis said,
And arguments, if to the stomach addressed,
May do more than when aimed at the head.

JUDY.

'We shall now only say a word or two as to the 'personal attacks' which we are accused of making 'on Her Majesty's Representative,' and on this subject we shall speak out plainly and distinctly. When a Governor defends so far as to publicly accuse men who have served him faithfully, of attempting to 'wrest the Prerogative,' because they differ in opinion with him, and retire from his Council—when he accuses them of 'pretensions' when they counsel him fearlessly, as they are sworn to do—when he refuses to the Speaker of the Assembly the official courtesy which are his due, because that officer acts independently in the discharge of his public duty; and seeks to curb, by a boyish pettishness of resentment, all freedom of action and sentiment in politics, he places himself upon a much lower level than the Liberals of Nova Scotia think a Governor should always occupy. For our part we have no hesitation in saying, that he no longer represents, but that he mis-represents our Sovereign; and, so far as we are personally concerned, we would not allow the proudest in Nova Scotia, without letting him feel that there was at least one person in the Province a little prouder than himself, and quite conscious that

"The rank is but the guinea stamp—
A man's a man for o' that."

As to the statement that His Lordship "had written himself down," the opinion is very current, among those who have examined the letters, speeches, and State papers, which have been issued from the Executive during the past year; but it is well known that we hold his advisers responsible for these, and that when we speak of the Governor, in those political essays, we but refer to and criticize the acts of his Executive Council. If they knew their duty, they would apply to themselves every attack, every joke, every sarcasm, without thrusting the Queen's Representative into the front of the battle, to receive the shots, and return the fire.

Let me now direct your attention to the paper of the 15th July, and ask again what drew forth the article which it contains? The answer is—another gross libel on the retired Councillors, in the Government Organ. Sir Charles Metcalfe had written to Lord Stanley:

"I am required to give myself up entirely to the Council; to submit absolutely to their dictation; to have no judgment of my own; to bestow the patronage of the Government exclusively on their partisans; to proscrib their opponents; and to make some public and unequivocal declaration of my adhesion to these conditions, involving the complete nullification of Her Majesty's Government."

Lord Falkland's Official Scribe, commenting on this passage, had said:

"This is what Sir Charles Metcalfe is required to do by his opponents—this is what Lord Falkland is required to do by his opponents—the enemies of justice to all parties, and to constitutional freedom. Is this disputed?"

What was my answer? The passage garbled and complained of by the Attorney General. The Committee will pardon me for quoting the whole:

"So, then, Lord Falkland has been required by Unisicke, Howe, and McNab, 'to submit absolutely to their dictation—to have no judgment of his own—to bestow the patronage of Government exclusively on their partisans—to proscrib their opponents—and to make some public and unequivocal declaration of his adhesion to these conditions, involving a complete nullification of Her Majesty's Government.'"

"Surely, surely, Lord Falkland cannot wonder that these gentlemen, and their friends, are not very measured in their expressions, when his paid Official servant, the mouth-piece of his Government, puts forth such barefaced lies as these. The epithet may be strong, but it is the right one

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