

acted. Thus, parties who had long made boast of their loyalty to the British Crown and of their hatred of republican democracy were now supporting the same treasonable measures which many of their opponents had been accused of in 1837, and of whom a number had perished on the scaffold in 1838. It forms a mortifying epoch in the history of Canadian parties, and is evidence that a political party should be careful not to attempt to monopolize the British flag nor to accuse its opponents of disloyal motives. The Ministry, sustained by a majority of both Houses, put the Bill through. It was signed by the Governor, and his conduct was approved by the Home government. The passage of the Bill was the condition of the support of the French-Canadian members. Had it been abandoned it would have shown moral cowardice on the part of the Ministry, and, moreover, would have led to their defeat.

There was rioting in Upper Canada. Baldwin, Blake, Mackenzie were burned in effigy; the houses of Rolph and George Brown were damaged. In Montreal the mob attacked the Assembly in session, drove out the members, demolished the furniture, and ended by setting fire to the Parliament Buildings and destroying property equal in value to the amount of the Rebellion Losses Bill. The next night the mob wrecked LaFontaine's house and burned his stables, smashed windows of Baldwin's and Campbell's boarding-houses, and also wrecked Hincks' printing office and damaged his house, as well as that of Nelson. LaFontaine's house was again attacked, and in the mêlée one man was killed.