

Had these imputations and insinuations been confined to this Colony, where a residence of upwards of twenty years has made me well known, and where these gentlemen are also perfectly well known, I should have treated them with utter indifference; but as they have formed part of a statement to the Duke of Newcastle, I feel it due to myself, and a duty to his Grace, to state that they are in every instance either wholly untrue, or such a perversion of truth as to be, if possible, more base than a direct untruth.

I take the liberty of requesting your Excellency to transmit this communication to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle.

I have, &c.
(signed) Jas. Crowdy.

— No. 5. —

No. 5.
Duke of Newcastle
to Governor
Hamilton.
21 March 1854.

(No. 52.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Duke of Newcastle to Governor Hamilton.

Sir,

Downing-street, 21 March 1854.

I HAVE to acknowledge your despatch of the 20th February, forwarding the copy of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Crowdy, on the subject of certain assertions, which he considers as reflecting upon him, in the printed statement submitted to me by the delegates from the House of Assembly of Newfoundland, when they were in this country.

You will inform Mr. Crowdy that the statements of which he complains have not caused me to entertain any unfavourable opinion of him; and that the reputation which he bears in this department continues unimpaired.

I have, &c.
(signed) Newcastle.

— No. 6. —

No. 6.
Governor Hamilton
to the Duke of
Newcastle.
23 March 1854.

(No. 89.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Hamilton to the Duke of Newcastle.

Government House, St. John's, Newfoundland,
23 March 1854.

(Received, 10 April 1854.)

My Lord Duke,

(Answered, 20 April 1854, No. 56, page 41.)

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a petition to Her Majesty from Protestant residents of the district of St. John, praying that, until the electoral districts be subdivided, and the representation fairly apportioned among all classes, responsible government may not be established in this colony.

2. The minority in the House of Assembly opposed to the concession of responsible government, without at least a subdivision of districts and an increased representation, feeling that something more was required in the present crisis than an ineffectual opposition in the Hall of Assembly, determined upon appealing in support of their views to their Protestant fellow countrymen.

3. With this object they procured the formation, in St. John's, of a large committee, comprising members of every Protestant denomination in the island, who, believing that the best course for them to adopt in this matter would be to establish the fact, that the majority of the Assembly did not truly represent the wishes of the majority of the people (that is, the Protestants) on the subject of responsible government, adopted for circulation in the outports, the accompanying address and petition, and appointed sub-committees to procure signatures forthwith to a similar petition in the district of St. John's.

4. Within the last 10 days these sub-committees have performed the task so assigned to them, and have procured to their petition the signatures of 1,640 male Protestants, adults, from a population (Protestant) of between 6,000 and 7,000