

ing of this the Boston *Pilot* said: "the Catholic population of Nova Scotia is not half so much as that of Boston, nor one-eighth of New York. Yet that population has done more in three months for creed and country, for repeal and temperance, than either New York or Boston. This is no doubt in a great measure owing to the fact of having such clergymen as Fathers O'Brien and Loughnan, and such laymen as Lawrence O'Connor Doyle."

When Lawrence O'Connor Doyle returned to the house of assembly in 1844—representing Halifax—the forces of the government and opposition were arrayed in fierce party struggle over the retirement of Howe, McNab and James B. Uniacke from the executive council. Party feeling throughout the province ran high, and Lord Falkland was conspicuously dragged into the conflict. Howe had given offence to some of his more ardent supporters by accepting office without a more decided change in the executive council, and, after a brief period, realizing the mistake he had made on joining a government which had stopped short of the fundamental principles of responsible government, he endeavored to heap *all* the blame upon the lieutenant-governor and his remaining councillors.

During the session of 1844 the "red benches" witnessed many keen encounters, and although in the long and fierce debate on the address Doyle contributed his share in the support of his party, his good nature did not desert him, as the following extracts from his speech on the occasion will exemplify:

Mr Doyle said: "I much fear, Mr. Chairman, that with this gloomy, dark day, with its discouraging influences, my own temperament not a little sympathises, and as I can add nothing to the novelty of this exhaustive debate, I may felicitate myself in hoping to contribute anything to the force of the argument. Worn-wearied as the committee are, it were almost presumption thus to rise with any expectation of enlivening