

your leadership. It is notorious that the party in the House led by Mr. Dorion, of Montreal, and by Mr. J. Sandfield McDonald and Mr. Brown, does not number more than about 46 in a House of 130, and even had I and all my friends coalesced with that party on the basis of surrendering to them all the influence of Government, we should still have been in a minority. I have conclusive proof that the adherents of Sir Allan MacNab and Mr. Morin formed a majority of the House, without a single vote from the ex-Ministerial party in Upper Canada. It was, however, evident that to secure a really strong and efficient Government, a more extended coalition was necessary, and as that could not take place between Mr. Morin and his friends and Mr. Dorion and Mr. McDonald, there was no other possible mode in my judgment by which such an Administration could be formed as would ensure confidence both at home and abroad in the stability of the Government. I have troubled you with these remarks that you may understand fully my views as to the position of parties when resignation was forced on me by a section of the Reformers of Upper Canada. My principal object however is to set myself right before the public as to yourself. When Sir Allan MacNab requested an interview with me on Saturday last, and explained to me his views as to the formation of a Coalition Government on the basis already referred to, and to which I could not object, I told him frankly that unless two gentlemen having the full confidence of myself and my friends were included in the Administration, as a guarantee to our party throughout the country that the great measures now pending should be carried out, and that the Coalition was a bonâ fide one based on the adoption of common principles, I did not believe that the new Government would command the confidence of the country. This opinion was given to Sir Allan MacNab late on Saturday, and he made an appointment to see me again the next morning, as he had of course to consult his friends. So far our communication