

defended with great ability. But these were not the real issues before the country. The strange spectacle was exhibited by the Catholics abandoning old friends and attaching themselves to old enemies—to those who in 1847 denounced them in every paper under their control, and who openly avowed an intention to proscribe them if they succeeded at the Elections. He read from the *Times*, *Christian Messenger*, and other papers of the day in proof, together with Mr. Johnston's own recorded sentiments on the subject. Contrast the position of the Catholics at that time with what it is now, and compare what the present Government had done for that body during the last three years with what Mr. Johnston had done in the four years he was at the head of Administration. He had under his hand a No. of the *Cross*, the Catholic organ of that day, in which it was asserted that during those long four years a single office worth 40s. a year had not been conferred on them. With these evidences of the past before them, would all the Irish, French, and Scotch Catholics go over and leave gentlemen with whom they have been so long and closely associated—and all because the Chairman of the Railway board had a quarrel with the Irish Catholics of the City? The learned member went at large into the trial of the rioters—the Condon case, and the retirement of Mr. Tobin from the Chair of the Legislative Council. He asked if the House were prepared to adopt the views of the Member for Annapolis on the Mines and Minerals question, and he called upon members to pause before exercising the powers reposed in them by the Constitution to place the Government in other hands.

SATURDAY, Feb. 14.

Mr. Johnston took the floor a few minutes after three o'clock, and spoke upwards of four hours, without, however, concluding his address, which he gave notice he would resume on Monday. He commenced with describing the state of parties now forming the Opposition—the Conservatives who had but one object and one duty, to oppose the existing Administration—and the Catholics who, although impelled by other motives, had the same object in view. From this time forward the Conservatives and Catholics had common objects and interests, neither of whom, however, had created the occasion for an alliance. That occasion had been created by Mr. Howe, who had assailed both the Catholics and the Government, and had created a crisis which made it apparent that the Conservatives must either join him or the Catholics. The Conservatives felt it their duty to join the Catholics, but he denied that there was any compact with that body—any arrangement how the Administration was to be formed in the event of victory—any understanding how the offices were to be disposed of. He felt that deep injury had been inflicted on the Catholic body by Mr. Howe, and that the Government had endorsed his sentiments. The Catholics, from their numbers were entitled to great weight, and one of them, at least, should be placed in a high position, connecting that body with the Administration, thereby giving strength and stability to the party. Mr. Johnston defended the proposed alliance on various grounds—quoted the action of the Baptist body who, in consequence of a similar quarrel with Mr. Howe, had allied themselves with the Churchmen—a union that has stood the test of four Elections, in his own County, by the return of the same members. As regards the "Catholic ascendancy" cry of 1847, he did not know how it originated—he was not responsible for what appeared in the newspapers—and he entered into the quarrel as a protestant, and not as a latitudinarian. Mr. J. claimed that he had been more liberal towards the Catholics than some members of the Administration, and instanced a School in the North End to which he advocated a grant of £60, but which was refused by the Liberals. He also laid claim to being more liberal than the Liberals themselves, and in proof referred to his action on the Suffrage question, an Elective Legislative Council, the Municipal Corporation Bill, and the Resolution on the Union of the Provinces. For the ten years that the Liberals had held office, they had not passed a single measure for enlarging the privileges of the people without adding salaries. As for "Jobs," the Hon. Attorney General himself was one; for had not Morris been pensioned to make way for Uniacke that Mr. Young might take the place of the latter. The pensioning of Judge Stewart was another job, by which £400 was needlessly thrown away; and the last was the turning out of Mr. Condon. Mr. J. here went into an elaborate defence of Mr. Condon, who he urged was entirely innocent of the charges against

him—that he had from first to last done nothing to deserve dismissal, and that as regards his action in the rioting affair his conduct was perfect. He also defended the language in the *Hallifax Catholic* of December last, in reference to the trial of the rioters and contended that there was nothing in that article to warrant the letters of Mr. Howe, and the assault which that gentleman has made on the Catholic body. The hon. gentleman touched a number of other points in his speech.

On Monday, after the presentation of a number of petitions, Mr. Johnston rose and resumed his speech, again touching upon Mr. Condon's case, and illustrating the charge of disloyalty imputed to him and others by reference to a small band of deserters from the Garrison here a short time ago. These men found their way to the County of Colchester where four of them were sheltered, sympathized with, and protected, but who could say, with justice, that the people who sheltered them were disloyal? Mr. J. went on to review the speeches of the Attorney General, Mr. Chambers, and Mr. Morrison in reference to the action of the House, last Session, on the Maine L. Quar Bill, and charged upon the two latter gentlemen inaccuracy in their statements. The division on that subject was of the same character in 1854-55 as last year, —nearly all the Conservatives in favor of the Bill and nearly all the Liberals against. He also reiterated his charges against the Government for not aiding him in carrying the Municipal Corporation Bill, and admitted that he himself had been in error in not making it obligatory. Mr. Condon had been dismissed for insubordination, but what did they see in the paper conducted by the hon. member for Halifax? There we find an officer of the Government in a late No. charging the administration with "timidity."

Here Mr. Howe rose to explain, in the absence of Mr. Annand, that the phrase "honourable timidities" was quoted from the *Hallifax Catholic*, whereupon he was assailed by a storm of hisses from the gallery. Order, with some difficulty, having been restored, Mr. Howe rose and said that, although during the twenty years he had a seat in the House there had been frequent bursts of applause, never but on two or three occasions had there been hissing in the galleries. Now it was an every day occasion, and had been ever since the debate occurred, and it was evidently the results of an organization to overawe the deliberations of the House. Under these circumstances he felt it his duty to inform the Speaker that there were "strangers in the Gallery"—the usual parliamentary mode of clearing the Galleries. And then the Speaker desired all strangers to withdraw, and the House soon after, about 5 o'clock, adjourned to 11 o'clock to-day, Tuesday.

TUESDAY, Feb. 17.

Mr. Johnston resumed, commencing by stating his determination to be brief, and to pass over pages of his notes. He first noticed the interruption of the day previous, whereby they had all lost a day. He said that freedom of debate was a main element of the free constitution under which we live, and he deprecated all attempts, by the expression of disapprobation of any particular speaker, to interfere with that freedom. He hoped such things would not occur in future, and he threw out the caution that parties by such demonstrations seriously injured the cause they wished to promote. He then referred to a letter in the *Morning Chronicle* of the day from Mr. Pugsley, one of the Jurors in the Railway case, who had entirely misunderstood his remarks the other day. He had never imputed to the Jury the motives mentioned by the writer of the letter. He stated that the Jury had misapprehended the law and the facts, but never said they had perjured themselves. The Hon. Gentleman then referred to the threat of a Dissolution by the Hon. Member for Windsor, which was a species of intimidation much the same as that complained of from the Galleries. It was exceedingly wrong and unconstitutional, and he had too much respect for His Excellency to suppose for a moment that it was authorised in the smallest degree by him, though that impression was sought to be made. The Hon. Gentleman then briefly recapitulated his charges against the Government, bringing home to them that of imbecility in particular, as shown by their meekly submitting to be bearded by two of their own, he would not call them subordinates, but in-subordinate officers. He stated the platform on which Catholics and Conservatives met, to be that of "civil and religious equality." He concluded his short speech by an eloquent and beautiful peroration.

The Hon. Atty. General disclaimed for his part all desire for evasions of the main point—confidence or no confidence. He wished to come to that with-

out any side wind, and he would not even promise to vote for Mr. Howe's amendment of the amendment. Mr. Johnston said he wished all reasonable latitude to be given to every gentleman on this question, and for himself, would be glad to hear explanations from Mr. Howe on many points, opened up by himself, only hoping that the hon. member would confine himself within due bounds—to which Mr. Howe assented.

Editorial Miscellany.

THE WANT OF CONFIDENCE DEBATE.

THIS debate in our House of Assembly, protracted 12 days, terminated on Wednesday, when the House divided, and the Administration were defeated, 28 voting for the motion and 22 against it, (including Mr. Wier whose name was afterwards added to the minority). Notwithstanding some confident assertions made by some of the Government members, on the floor of the House, that one at least of the Roman Catholic members would adhere to their side, uncontradicted at the time by the party himself, when the division was taken, they all without exception, went over to the opposition—displaying a unanimity which it is to be hoped will be shown by the Protestants of the country whenever the proper time comes for its effectual exercise. The names in the division are as follows:—

For the motion—Whitman, McKinnon, Fuller, Marshall, White, Henry, Jno. Campbell, Robichau, Wade, Bourneuf, C. C. Campbell, Bill, Martell, McLern, Thorne, Brov Moses, Churchill, Killam, Wilkins, Johnston, McFarla, Tobin, Bent, Tupper, McKeagney, Smith, Ryder.

Against the motion—Solicitor General, Attorney General, McLellan, Esson, Annand, Dimmock, Parker, Webster, Geldert, Reinard, McKenzie, McDonald, Davison, Morris, Robertson, Financial Secretary, Morrison, Bailey, Chambers, Lock, Howe, Wier.

Two of the Members who generally voted with the opposition—Hyde and Caldwell—have been absent during the Session.

On motion of the Attorney General, the House adjourned until Friday, at 2 p. m.

PORTSMOUTH, Jan. 29.—Rear Admiral, Sir Houston Stewart, K.C.B., and family embarked this afternoon on board the *Dragon*, 6, paddle frigate, Captain W. H. Stewart, C.B., which left with them for Plymouth, for the gallant admiral to embark on board his flag ship the *Indus*, 78, Captain Hay, C.B., Sir H. Stewart having been appointed Commander in Chief of the West Indian Station, vice Rear Admiral Arthur Fanshaw, C.B., who has held the command since November, 1853. Sir A. Fanshaw's flag ship the *Boscawen*, 70, Captain W. F. Glanville, has been in commission since the same date, and now come home to be paid off.

We are sorry to state that Captain Hay, of Her Majesty's ship *Indus*, is ill, and obliged to be taken to the Royal Naval Hospital at Stonehouse.

William Land Scarnell, (1857) has been appointed Master, to the *Columbia*, G, steam surveying vessel.

(From last Saturday's City Edition.)

THE R. M. Steamship *Nagara* arrived this morning, in 13½ days from Liverpool. Dates to Feb. 1. Parliament was to reassemble on Tuesday, Feb. 3. There was a statement in the *Herald* that Lord Aberdeen is engaged in secret negotiations with Lord Palmerston; and that Mr. Gladstone, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Sidney Herbert, are to be provided with places in the Cabinet at the expense of some of its less important members.

The news from the East is important. Rushire has been occupied after some fighting. Several British officers and soldiers, among them Brigadier Stopford, lost their lives. The Persians retired inland. On learning the fall of the place, the Shah, it is said, had made his submission, through the Turkish minister at Teheran, to the British Government.

"Affairs at Canton, instead of mending, have taken a turn for the worse. The Chinese are resolute in their resistance, and appear to have retaliated by setting fire to some of the buildings used by the foreign merchants, and Admiral Seymour was preparing in earnest to bombard the city; Sir J. Bowring had sent to India for troops, and troops were ready for him at Ceylon."

In the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday, Jan. 28, the case of Archdeacon Denison was brought before Lord Campbell and Justices Coleridge, Wightman and Crompton. Dr. Bayford, with whom was Mr. Fortescue, appeared against the rule obtained at the beginning of the term, calling upon Sir John Dodson, the Dean of Arches, to hear the appeal of Archdeacon Denison. Dr. Phillimore, Mr. Hugh Hill, Q. C., and Mr. Coleridge appeared in support of the Rule. The Judges in the course of the argument, showed themselves in favor of granting the rule—and the rule for mandamus was made absolute.

Mr. Baron Alderson died on Tuesday, Jan'y 27, in his 70th year.

The agitation for a repeal of the income tax gains strength and importance. Deputations have waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who explains that he does not mean to rely upon the letter of the Act, but that he shall retain the tax, (or try to do so) if he wants it.—Practical grievances, showing the inequality and injustice of the system upon which the assessments were made, were adduced. The Chancellor promised a careful consideration of the subject.