

upon the hustings and in the columns of the *Globe*, that "John A" was a slave to the priesthood of poor, benighted, priest-ridden Quebec because he had four Catholics in his cabinet; yet in his own ministry were found six Catholics or one half of the government. We admit that it is a true sign of greatness for a statesman such as Gladstone to change his opinions. Gladstone is a convert to Home Rule but this conviction did not grow up like a mushroom in a single night. Brown went to bed in the evening the sworn knight of "Rep by Pop," the emancipator from priestly coercion; he sprang up to greet the first rays of the rising sun, an unknown quantity with regard to popular government and the defender of Catholic rights. Mr. Drummond put the case in a nutshell when he admitted that he joined the cabinet, because Mr. Brown "swallowed his platform and gave everything up to Lower Canada." It was a most indigestible dish as the sequel will prove. When the house met, Mr. Patrick arose, announcing the names of the new ministers, and hoping that he would be able to state the government policy on the morrow. Mr. H. L. Langevin, an old Conservative war-horse, who needs no introduction to our readers, moved the following amendment: "That this house... must state that the administration... does not possess the confidence of this house and of the country." The motion was carried in both houses by a two-thirds majority and the government of a few hours was defeated. It has been claimed and perhaps rightly too that such a course violated parliamentary procedure. In the light of Brown's relentless thwarting of the late Macdonald-Cartier government we are led to conclude with the small boy "that tit for tat is fair play."

Mr. Mackenzie claims "It reveals a trick, the trap was set for Mr. Brown." It is our humble opinion that Messrs. Brown and Macdonald were both tricksters. If Macdonald proved the better trickster, so much

the worse for Brown. The now Hon. Mr. Brown visited the Governor-General and demanded a dissolution. The Governor-General adhered to his former memorandum and would not grant his request. Brown insisted. Those who have visited the national gallery of art in Ottawa, must have smiled at the picture representing the sad defeat of the three country trustees who intended to dismiss the pretty school mistress, but fell victims to the wiles of the fair orator. The Governor-General, not possessing the magnetism of this enchantress, could not win Brown over to his way of thinking; he came out victorious just the same. Brown's list of arguments are too unique to be overlooked. "Corruption" during the late elections was the first. The Governor wisely replied that if this were true, new laws should be enacted before a dissolution, to avoid such a sad state of affairs in the future. "Strong sectional and religious feelings" was the second. The Governor rejoined that if Mr. Brown could prove that, he, and he alone was able to quiet this animosity, the House would be immediately dissolved. This ultimatum seems to be somewhat sarcastic, for Mr. Brown had supplied the greater number of the faggots for this religious blaze. "The unprecedented and unparliamentary course of the House" was the third. The Governor retorted that the conclusions, not the actions of the House concerned his excellency. If the Queen's representative had desired to be humorous he might have remarked that this was a pit-fall, into which Mr. Brown went "eyes and mouth wide open."

The last word was spoken and the Brown Cabinet resigned. Ultimately, Mr. Cartier undertook the formation of a Ministry, known in history as the Cartier-Macdonald Government. "John A" had changed places with Cartier, or as one writer has remarked, "the cart has been put before the horse."

Now the real "Double Shuffle" appears upon the scene. In 1857, an