

William Wedderburn, now a County Court Judge, a gentleman of fine parts, and highly educated. Polite and courteous to a degree always in his intercourse with his fellows, his style of oratory was incisive and brilliant, and to his admirably chosen diction he brought to bear the melody of a sonorous and captivating voice. Against those four men, during the whole session, Andrew Blair was pitted. His little following stood by him manfully, encouraging and stimulating him by their devotion, sustaining him in the hour of trial by their loyalty. But the work was pretty much up-hill, and a less courageous man might easily have succumbed and fallen by the way. Still Blair persevered. His tact was remarkable, his knowledge of men was great, and his very earnestness and confidence in himself and his cause drew to his side, on occasion, many whilom opponents. At the last session of the Legislature, held in 1882, he had the pleasure and delight of seeing his band increased to seventeen. No wonder the Government viewed that defection from their ranks with fear and alarm. No wonder they hastened to recognize in the leader of the Opposition an intellectual force in the political and economical history of their Province, which was destined, in a very short time, to seize the reins of power, and to supplant them in the affections and regard of the people. To Mr. Blair's credit, it ought to be said here that, during the whole time that he was in Opposition, he never refused to help the government of the day in the house or in committee, with his counsel and advice on all public bills which came up for argument and settlement. He was a true legislator in every sense of the word, and while his life and brains were dedicated to the welfare of his party, he was a thorough man of the world, so far as general politics was concerned, and never lost sight of the fact that love of country and appreciation of good laws -- laws by which the entire community might be benefitted -- came in for his hearty and unqualified support. He approached the discussion of public questions in no narrow or bigoted spirit. He never condemned a measure simply because it was issued at the instance of the Government to which he was, for the time being, opposed. He considered it ever solely upon its merits, and good indeed must be the grounds on which he opposed it. Mr. Blair had not been a member of the House a full week before this trait in his character had been discovered by friends and antagonists alike, and from this discovery much esteem and respect for the new