

majority is caused by the fear lest my friends, knowing that, and conscious of the justness of our cause, will rest on their oars, and stay at home. Gentlemen, those who do that take upon themselves an awful responsibility, and they will, should we lose, carry to their dying day the reproach in their consciences that they, by their neglect, have been instrumental in bringing about the ruin of their country. (Hear, hear.)

The Redistribution Bill.

A VOICE—What about the Redistribution bill?

SIR JOHN MACDONALD—I am asked what about the Redistribution bill.

Mr. PLUMB—I think I was redistributed as badly as anybody. (Hear, hear.)

Sir JOHN MACDONALD—Well, the Grits seldom complain that they are hived altogether. It seems they do not like the association. (Laughter.) I told my constituents the other day—well, I hope, indeed, I know, they will be my constituents—(cheers)—a story. When the Reform Club was built in London, it was the finest club-house there, and the club-room was really a magnificent chamber. Theodore Hook, who was a great wit, and the editor of a Tory paper, was taken into the Reform Club by a friend who desired to show him the place. When he was in the club-room the friend said, “Well, how do you like our room?” Said Hook: “I would rather have your room than your company.” (Loud laughter.) So it is with the Grits. They do not like each other’s company. (Renewed laughter.) They like to associate with Conservative gentlemen such as you. Your being with them rather gives tone to their society. Gentlemen, I will tell you what we did. In the first place, to show you that we were impartial, I may say that Niagara and Cornwall, being under the average population, we wiped them out, notwithstanding that Niagara, represented so ably by Mr. Plumb, would return a Conservative again, and and Cornwall was sure to elect a Conservative again. These boroughs were sure to return Conservatives, but in order to equalize the population we wiped them out, and deprived our party of two certain votes.

A VOICE—You gerrymandered yourself.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD—But, say the Opposition, you have not equalized the population all round. Some constituencies still have small populations and some large. But, gentlemen,