

been sound and British, and have been approved by Her Majesty's Government.

That the present Halifax opposition is very different from the old Government party—that the best materials of that party stand by Lord Falkland, and that its Rump, only, adheres to Collins, Cogswell & Co.

That, to say nothing of the Reformers at all, the contrast between the Conservatives who support, and those who oppose, the present Government, is so ridiculous, that no man can make it without laughing.

That the state of society in Pictou has been produced, and sustained by, the contemptible intrigues of persons who have sacrificed the best interests of the County to suit their own objects, and who now seek to continue the system, utterly regardless of the peace and advancement of those they wish to mislead.

That all the declamation in the Observer has its origin in gross selfishness and disappointed ambition.

That the coalition, formed by the two parties who have united in Lord Falkland's Council, is sanctioned by the example of Peel and Stanley, and by British and Foreign Statesmen of every party, and every order of mind.

That, in fact, the fourteen questions being settled, it was almost impossible that these men should not unite, if circumstances favored a coalition; because, some of them having too much honor, and too much sense, to attempt to disturb what had been done, and others, properly appreciating their talents, and proposing, for the future, nothing but what they could approve, there was everything to induce, and nothing to prevent a union.

That neither of these parties could have acted with Cogswell, Collins & Co. and Jeffrey, Wilkins & Co. nor been successful, in restoring and keeping up the old system, if they had.

That Huntingdon has nothing to do with the Rump, being only divided from the Administration by one or two questions, while he would not touch the Times and Observer gang, even with a boat hook.

Having, I trust, my countrymen, made all this sufficiently apparent, let me now address myself to another ground of attack, which the Opposition have taken. They think it a strong one, we shall see how much of it I will leave under their feet. For many years, in the Times, and for many months in the Observer, the Obstructionists have accused the Constitutionalists of selfishness, corruption and an inordinate desire to fill their own pockets at the expense of the people. Over and over again has this vile slander been circulated, through the prints fostered by the Jeffreys, Wallaces, Morris, Hallibutons, Binneys, Wilkins, and the whole tribe of people, who have grown so fat upon the public purse, that they think they can not only intrigue against the Representative of their Sovereign, who spares, and the Government which pays them, but even put down honesty and common sense, by dint of unblushing and slanderous assertion.

They shall not put it down, but mark how I will put them down. Nay, gentlemen, no wriggling and wincing—as Dick Hatteraick and Sir Francis Head say, "you will have it," and you shall to your heart's content. I would gladly have remained quiet in my study, but when I have seen the public money, which the generosity of my country has poured into your pockets, employed to maintain an organized system of slander—when I know that one of the Presses from which these falsehoods emanate was purchased, and I am assured, is at this moment owned, by one of you, while I know that others sustain these engines of defamation by double and treble subscriptions. I will give you the benefit of the contrasts you provoke, and which will enable the public to judge correctly between you and the men you defame.

Corruption, venality, wasting the public Revenues!—these, my Countrymen, are the charges which those men bring against us—turn over their amiable effusions, and you will find them written on every page; turn to the facts, with me, and these will put them to shame:

The old Reform party consisted of:

Alexander Archibald,  
Hugh McDonald,  
Lawrence O'C. Doyle,  
Alexander M. Upham,  
Peres M. Benjamin,  
Hugh Bell,  
G. W. McLeilan,  
John Morton,  
John Young,

Peter Spearwater,  
Benjamin Smith,  
Henry Goudge,  
William Holland,  
Gaius Lewis,  
J. B. Holdsworth,  
Simon D'Entramont,  
Thomas Forrester,  
Richard Forrester,

George Smith,  
Zenas Waterman,  
Herbert Huntingdon,  
William Young,  
William Annand,  
Joseph Howe,  
Reuben Clements,

F. Robicheau,  
Andrew McKim,  
Thomas Dickson,  
W. F. Desbarres,  
Alexander McDougall,  
Samuel Chipman,  
Richard McHeffy.

There may have been some others, but this is as correct a list as I can make, from memory; if I have omitted any that ought to be included, or put down any gentlemen's name, that did not belong to the party, I beg his pardon. But assuming this list to be correct, let me ask you, my countrymen, to run your eyes over it, and inquire which of these men can be accused of venality and corruption, of serving himself at the expense of the public, of taking money out of the Treasury without giving to the country an equivalent? If the charge can be brought against the Reformers—"the Responsibles"—as they are often called, here they are—these are the men that the Rump are continually accusing of selfishness and rascality of every kind. Shall I, who knew them well—who know most of them now, sit quietly by, and hear their good names sported with, week after week, by a parcel of people, fed upon the public treasure; and who, like crows fastening on a carcass, croak their hoarse throats and flap their mournful wings, at every bird that soars above them, for fear that he may descend, and claim a portion, of what is the common property of the fowls of the air, but which they hope, by clamour, to monopolize.

I have said, my countrymen, that I knew these men well. Some of them were wealthy, but they had accumulated property by honest industry, without ever drawing one shilling from the Province chest—others of them were poor, and I have seen their honest pride and manly independence struggling with, and overcoming, the difficulties of life—some of them, unpaid by the public, unpurchasable, have gone down into the grave and can no longer defend their characters; but their memories are dear to you, my countrymen, and dear to me, and as long as I have a pen to wield, I shall consider it a duty to flay the wretches by whom they are traduced.

Of these thirty-two gentlemen, who composed the old Reform party, twenty-six never have received one farthing of the public money, and never held any place of profit or emolument under the Crown. Mr. McDonald, Mr. George Smith, and Mr. Desbarres, hold, or held, I believe, the local offices of Judge of Probate, worth, to them all, not much over £150 per annum—Mr. Huntingdon is Prothonotary at Yarmouth, which may yield some £10 or £12—and Mr. Dickson is Collector of Excise at Pictou, worth, perhaps, £100. Not one of the others have received, during the many years that some of them have been in public life, during the four years that they acted together as a party, one single farthing, nor do they now receive one, for I put out of question the allowance to the Speaker, which is barely sufficient to defray the expenses of the office. And yet, strange to say, these are the men against whom the Jeffreys, Wilkins, Wallaces, Binneys, Cogswells, and all their scribes and whippers-in, dare to bring the charge of venality and corruption—of serving themselves at the expense of the Province.

These are the men to whom the people of Nova Scotia mainly owe the fourteen important changes and improvements recorded in my second letter, and yet six-and-twenty have never received one shilling's worth of advantage from their services, and the whole thirty-two together do not now receive as much as one of Mr. Jeffrey's Clerks would think a moderate reward for his services, in making entries from ten till three, hearing him talk nonsense about politics, and assisting him to insult his brother-in-law, and his Sovereign's Representative, occasionally, at a public dinner. So much for the old Reform party, or "the Responsibles," as they are sometimes styled.

Turn we now to the Parliamentary supporters of the present Government, the Constitutionalists, as they are entitled to be called, and let us see if the Rump, and its shameless organs, the Times and Observer, can make out a much better case against them. I take the list as I find it in the papers:

Messrs. J. R. Dewolf,  
McKay,  
Holdsworth,  
Fulton,  
Comeau,  
Ryder,  
Homer,  
McKenna,

Messrs. Smith,  
Palmer,  
Young,  
Fairbanks,  
Desbarres,  
Forrester,  
Annand,  
Martell,