

We remained three days in New York, and arrived at Montreal on the 8th of May. After spending a short time there, we set off to visit the different members of our family now settled at Toronto, Hamilton and Dover Mills. I left my dear wife to enjoy her children's society in the two latter places, while I went to attend to my Parliamentary duties in Toronto. I went to Hamilton every Saturday, returning on the Monday morning.

Not approving of the conduct of the Ministry, and seeing it hopeless to stem the torrent of gross abuse practiced by the Executive, I left for sweet home eight days before the Session ended.

I may here remark that there was no difficulty in getting in the House of Assembly an overwhelming majority for any measure, however bad, if proposed by Lafontaine, Hinks & Co'y. And this will ever be the case while the constituencies of this Colony return so many needy, greedy, unprincipled lawyers. They have been in the habit of doing. Forty-seven lawyers in a Legislative Assembly of eighty-four members! Was ever the like known? The thing is infamous, and tending to the ruin of this new country. If there was no pay given, there would be fewer of the briefless lawyers. They get a pound per day while the session lasts, besides travelling expenses, while many of them could not make at home a dollar a day.

How easily such men may be bribed to sell the best interests of the country. It makes me sick.

In politics the year 1850 to 1855 produced nothing very important in this Colony. There was the constant chiselling and villainy of Hinks and the other base creatures in the Executive Government of this devoted country. I attended the sessions of Parliament during these five years, and I can say that every year the barefaced dishonesty of those in power, kept steadily increasing. At every session I embraced every opportunity of exposing their malversations, but they seemed so wholly corrupt as to be insensible to shame. I could not stand it, and left them in the middle of the session of 1854 for Britain, my wife going with me. We visited all quarters of the country, and received great kindness and attention both publicly and privately. We returned the end of 1855.

As determined upon before we left, we came and took up house in Hamilton, as the whole of our family were there or in the neighbourhood.

During my stay in Montreal for about 30 years, I made very many dear acquaintances and strong attachments, and the leaving it has cost me great grief.

I may remark, although during my residence in that City I had from first to last made myself as useful as possible, I never was paid any public compliment, excepting that the newspapers often gave me great credit.

I attended the greater part of the session of Parliament this year, 1856, and am sorry to be obliged to say those in power are going from bad to worse. Many of the public acts of the present Ministry are so bad and unprincipled, that I will just leave them as described in the newspapers. A day of reckoning, I hope, is close at hand.

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