

Mr. BROWN (interrupting) said the honorable gentleman was mistaken. He forgot that it was only last session that he (Mr. Brown) brought the Attorney General to book, and asked him whether or not it had been agreed in 1864 that the Attorney General should consult his friends, and he (Brown) his, and that in that way they should each choose one member of the Upper House, until the whole twenty-four were selected. The Attorney General stated that that was the bargain, and to say that it could have been changed in England was utterly impossible.

Mr. MACDOUGALL—All I can state—and I am stating a fact publicly which can be explained or established—is that that was not the opinion which the Governor General formed of the resolutions, and was not the opinion expressed by the Attorney General when we came to make the selections. But sir by transferring that question [from England to this country, by insisting with our colleagues that that was a fair and honest mode of selection, we succeeded in obtaining one-half of the Upper Canadian portion of the Senate for the liberal party, the other half going to the conservatives. I mention this fact not so much because of its own importance as to show that the advice which the honorable gentleman feels it his duty sometimes to give is not always right in view of other questions which may arise. (Cheers.) Till this and other important matters were settled we felt it to be our duty to remain in the government; and I point to the conduct of this coalition from the time Mr Brown joined it till now and I defy him, and I defy the writers of this country, to point to any acts of the government since he left it more unworthy or more deserving of censure than in the other half of its existence before he retired from it. (Hear, hear.) Now let me say that when the responsible duty was cast upon us of consenting or refusing to enter the

administration about to be formed, we felt it incumbent upon us to look at the question not only from a party and an Upper Canadian point of view, but from a British American point of view. (Cheers.) The prerogative of the Crown was exercised, and Mr. John A. Macdonald, who was President of the Conference in London was authorized by the Governor General to form a government under the new constitution. He had that power in his hands—he had authority to form a government, and he had the ability to do it. He came to his colleagues and made this proposition: The policy we shall adopt will be acceptable to you. There is no difference of opinion between us, and therefore you should enter the government with us. This is the formation which I propose—so many from Upper Canada, so many from Lower Canada, and so many from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. My colleagues and myself consulted first upon the justice of the proposition, assuming that we should go into the government at all, and we came to the conclusion that the proposition of Mr. Macdonald was not fair to the party we represent. We contended that if there was to be a coalition, for the purpose of putting the new machinery in motion, it was fair to let the liberal party in all the Provinces have at least an equal representation in the government, and we contended further, that if five seats in the cabinet were to be given to Upper Canada, three of them should be given to the reform party. These were the conditions we made, and for two days it was supposed they would not be accepted, and we believed we would not have any part or lot in the matter. But while matters were in that position, what occurred? Gentlemen from the lower Provinces, representing the liberal party there, arrived in this country, and said to us: "We are liberals; we have in times past struggled for responsible government and other libe-