

into Opposition along with the extreme Reformers.

The Conservative party was now consolidated under MacNab and Morin, and was reinforced by a number of the Reform party, led by Hincks. The Opposition consisted of the remnant of the old moderate Reformers, led by John Sandfield Macdonald, the Rouges, or Liberal party of Lower Canada, under Dorion, and the extreme Reformers and Clear Grits under George Brown. This Ministry settled the Clergy Reserves and Seigniorial Tenure questions in 1854. The Legislative Council was made elective in 1856, though the system was relinquished later under Confederation. MacNab was succeeded by Taché for a short time; then John A. Macdonald became Premier and appealed to the country in 1858. The Reformers won in Upper Canada, but the Rouges were in the minority in Lower Canada. In order to carry on his government, Macdonald had to abandon the principle of "double majority", that is, a majority in both provinces, which had been followed since the union in 1840. By doing this he managed to rule by his Lower Canada majority, and gave the Reformers in Upper Canada cause for their outcry against French domination, and led George Brown and his friends to make a strong demand for "Rep. by Pop".

When the census of 1851 showed that the population of Upper Canada had surpassed that of Lower Canada the Reformers demanded an increased number of members. The French-Canadians opposed this, as it would place them in the minority in the union, and they pleaded, in support of their con-