

Mr. McNab was sworn in, by Sir Colin, before he returned ; on the arrival of Lord Falkland, he stood in the same situation as other Members, and, being elected by the people, could not have been fairly displaced. So far, then, it is clear that Lord Falkland cannot be charged with these appointments, or with having done any thing, by my advice, for the special benefit of the Howes and McNabs. I have been long enough in public life to know that falsehoods may circulate through society, as the hidden thorn festers in the flesh, the answer and the remedy being easy, when the cause of the irritation can be traced. In this House I am always ready to meet misrepresentations—to grapple with falsehoods, and put them down by the force of truth and candid dealing. I make these explanations here, because here are gentlemen from every part of the country, who can contradict me if they are untrue. Lord Falkland has given a young friend of mine an honorary situation on his personal staff, which yields neither emolument nor influence, but leads to some expense. The situation of Provincial Aid is a household, not a political, appointment, and is generally given to genteel good looking young men, of respectable families in the Town. Though well aware that it would be unfair, to his Lordship, to attempt a defence of such an appointment here, I may say thus much for my young relative, that he has had a liberal education, has manifested as much judgment and industry as his neighbours, and has travelled over more of Europe and America than half of those who are snarling at his heels.

Having thus disposed of the misrepresentations aimed at myself personally—which I know have made but little impression in this Assembly, where the facts are known, but which have been industriously circulated elsewhere ; let me now invite your attention to the objections urged against the Government, not for its acts, but on account of its composition. It has been said by many, We have no specific complaint to urge—we approve of the general principles announced by the Administration—its appointments are satisfactory, but we dislike it because it is a coalition. I think I may say, with all sincerity, that if gentlemen out of the Government have felt any difficulties pressing upon them from this circumstance, those within have had their share. I believe I express but the common feeling of my colleagues, when I acknowledge that the old party ties, and feelings, and perhaps prejudices, which beset our path at the outset, and which are now felt to offer almost the only obstruction to the harmonious and satisfactory action of the Government, have added materially to the obstacles with which we have had to contend. I had read of coalitions, but, until recently, knew but little of their peculiarities, or of the varied passions and suspicions they are calculated to arouse ; now, when I take up a volume of English History, I can enter into the spirit of such times most intimately, and can understand how new combinations of parties are attended with many difficulties, trying to the minds, and absorbing to the feelings, of those by whom they are formed—and who, though they may be looking with a single eye to