

with crimes of all descriptions, from coalition down to frauds. He commenced his speech by telling the Government that they did not enjoy the confidence of the people of Canada, and that, imitating Gladstone, it was time to dissolve Parliament and appeal to the people. This Government, knowing their duty, while they have a majority in the popular branch of the Legislature of from sixty to seventy, think it would be highly improper, and not in the interests of this country, to dissolve the House. On what does the honorable gentleman base his theory? He tells us that the elections have been going against the Government this last year. Election after election has been decided against the Administration. I turn up the record, and what do I find? That during last year twelve elections have been held in the Dominion of Canada. In all but four of those, gentlemen were re-elected representing the same class of politics as their immediate predecessors. In Two Mountains Mr. Globenski was replaced by Mr. Daost. In Middlesex Mr. Scatcherd was replaced by his brother, a member of the Reform party. In Glengarry Mr. McNab was unseated, and in the election that followed was again returned.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—With a reduced majority.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—In Beauce the representative was elevated to the Senate. There was a fair test of the confidence of the people in the Government, and a gentleman was elected representing the politics of the Administration. In Cardwell the lamented gentleman whose loss to the House of Commons we all deplore, was replaced by a gentleman representing the same political opinions, as it was a constituency belonging to the Opposition.

Hon. Mr. AIKENS—But his majority was five times as large.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—In Wellington Mr. Sturton was replaced by Mr. Guthrie representing similar views to his predecessor. In Bothwell and Jacques Cartier there were elections and the gentlemen who came into the Administration were returned by those constituencies. There are four additional constituencies, and on these alone the honorable gentleman could have based his argument.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—And on the reduced majorities in the others.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Where the Government have seventy of a majority in the House it is a slender consolation to the Opposition that there have been reduced majorities in their constituencies. In those four that replaced gentlemen opposed to the Government two of the constituencies

did not belong to this Administration. In the two Ontarios supporters of the Government were replaced by gentlemen who had occupied those seats on a former occasion, but in the great upheaval of 1874, when the friends of the honorable gentlemen were swept out of power, the constituencies feeling that the Dominion was dishonored by the presence of an Administration that had marked itself out in the history of the country as being more corrupt than any other that had ever existed, returned supporters of the present Government, and in the last election they only returned to their former love, and that is all that can be said of it. This leaves just two constituencies where the Government were defeated. In Queen's County, Prince Edward Island, Mr. Laird, who was appointed to a Lieut.-Governorship in the North West, was replaced by Mr. Pope, who was elected by only the small majority of fifty, where there were over four thousand votes polled. The other constituency was in Nova Scotia, where Mr. Tremaine, who was elevated to the Bench, was replaced by Mr. Campbell, who, I believe, is a supporter of the Opposition; so that the Opposition have a right to claim just two victories. The closest vote of last session was that on the steel rails question, and that vote was 124 to 54. If that vote were repeated to-day the Government would simply have 120 as against 58, making the Government majority 62 instead of 70. Sixty-two is an extraordinary majority for a Government to have, and I deny the allegation of the honorable gentleman that the sentiment of the country, if to-day tested at the polls, would be against the Administration. Gentlemen may make up their minds that the Government are not going to depart from constitutional usage and throw the country into the turmoil of an election to please the friends of the honorable gentlemen. The honorable Senator took a fling at the Government because, forsooth, it was one of the planks of their platform that members of the Administration, or some of their friends, should have been elevated to positions of trust in the country. The honorable gentleman does not imagine that this Government, or any other Government, when they have an office to fill, go into their opponents' camp and seek in the ranks of the Opposition for men to fill positions of trust. It is quite true that the Premier who controlled the destinies of this country not long ago was in the habit of buying up his opponents in that way, but that has not been the policy of this Administration. The honorable gentleman spoke with great bitterness of feeling, I can readily