

from their commencement. His seat was vacated on his quitting the Province, which he did without a trial, and W. C. Salmon was elected in his place.

Thus it will be seen that the feeling of the country, at the several periods of these elections, were decidedly Conservative; and on these feelings the majority of the present House was elected. Their addresses to their constituents plainly and explicitly declared the principles on which they intended to act. It had a strong prepossession in its favour, and entered on its duties at a period, when the public were prepared to fall into almost any measures which might originate from them. Never did a Parliament assemble from whom more was expected, or from whom less has been obtained. Individually, they have every one of them the best interests of the country at heart, but I know not how it happens that as a whole they have given so much dissatisfaction. It is not compatible with my present intention to offer any political remark; I have merely undertaken a sketch of the House and its officers, as they appeared to me during the present Session, the first I had ever witnessed in the Colonies—as it may form some guide to electors, should it so happen, that they be again called on to exercise their franchise as a separate Province, which is at present not very unlikely.

The present or Fifth Session of the Thirteenth Parliament was called together on the 3d of December, and was opened by the Right Honorable Charles Poulett Thomson, the new Governor General of the North American Provinces. Yet, why selected for that post no one could at first surmise. He had long been an enemy to the Canadian timber trade, and an advocate for those measures, which the great body of the people repudiate. He was considered one of the most thorough going Radicals in the Cabinet, a man of great finesse, and a true reader of character. As a commercial financier he stands almost unrivalled. It was thought that he might prove the most proper person to win from the Canadians an expression of confidence, and he has proved himself well calculated for the task; in his personal address he is mild and affable, ready of approach and free of conversation. Opposed to his line of politics and convinc-