

it was therefore doubly unfair for Upper Canada to pay any proportion whatsoever. The Ministry replied, that the object of the bill was only to pay for all destruction caused by the rebels, and to carry out the views of their predecessors in office in 1846, who had paid Upper Canadian losses from licenses forming part of the general consolidated fund, and had contemplated a similar provision, in part fulfilled for Lower Canadian Rebellion-Losses. But the Opposition members managed to spread their view of the question over the country, from Montreal westward, and monster meetings, denouncing Ministerial policy, were held, in which the common watchword was "No pay to Rebels." The antagonism of races broke forth again, and many members of the Ultra-Tory party threatened annexation to the States, sooner than submit to the consequences of Lafontaine's measures. Nevertheless the Bill was carried in the Assembly by 48 to 32, and having passed the Upper House, it was assented to by Lord Elgin, on April 26th, 1849. On leaving the Parliament House the Governor was insulted by the crowd, and in the evening a disorderly mob, to the lasting disgrace of Montreal, set fire to this building, which, with the valuable Library, (wherein were 1800 volumes on Canada alone,) was completely destroyed. Rioting was carried on in the city, and many Reform members were maltreated, and their houses injured. Similar scenes were enacted throughout Upper Canada, especially in Toronto, where Baldwin, and some others, were burnt in effigy. Some further attempts at violence taking place in the capital, the military fired into the mob, and one man was killed. Meanwhile, addresses, from the Reformers chiefly, came pouring in from all quarters to Lord Elgin, expressing their confidence in his Administration, and their regret for the