

ure done away with, but some wanted the seigniories expropriated without compensation; others wished to see them expropriated with compensation; others favoured a voluntary arrangement, aided by legislation; and others, like Papineau (himself a seignior), wished to leave the question where it was. Matters dragged along till the end came in 1851. The Reform party had become too ponderous to be held together and broke of its own weight. The united strength of the Reformers, Radicals, Clear Grits, Independents, and *Parti Rouge* so outnumbered the Conservatives that, instead of uniting to outvote so small a minority, the leaders of the separate groups each set out to court new alliances so as to convert his subordinate position into a dominant one in a new combination. Baldwin and LaFontaine resigned, and Hincks and Rolph became Reform leaders. Hincks was accused of partiality to the Roman Catholics, and of endeavouring to make personal gain out of debentures and lands, and a lot of Reformers went over to Brown. An election followed, in which the leading Reform papers were against the Ministry. Brown and Mackenzie aided the Conservative opposition, led by Sir Allan MacNab and John A. Macdonald. Brown defeated Malcolm Cameron in the election, and when the House was called together the extreme Reformers united with the Conservative Opposition and defeated George E. Cartier for the Speakership. Hincks resigned, and MacNab formed a coalition government, including John A. Macdonald, who was the real leader. Many supporters of the old administration went