

to have our names identified with, and to which, as they are recorded on the Statute Book of the Country, I do not think it necessary to refer more particularly at present—during the Session of 1851 we had such evidence of the disorganization of the party in Upper Canada by whose support and confidence we had been enabled to conduct the affairs of the Province, that at a late period of that Session, my honorable and learned friend, the then Attorney General for Upper Canada, (Mr. Baldwin) was under the necessity of tendering his resignation. I was then, as Mr. Baldwin has since felt it necessary to explain, although it was not made public at the time, most anxious to retire with him from the Government. Mr. Baldwin strongly urged upon me the importance for the interests of the great party with which I have the honor of being connected, of not taking that step. He conceived that the measure on which the Government had, so far as Upper Canada was concerned, been defeated by a very large majority, was one with which he, as Attorney-General of the Province, was more particularly identified, and for which he was more especially responsible, and he did not think that I should be justified in tendering my resignation at that time. It is perfectly well known that the honorable and learned gentleman who is the present Chief Justice of Lower Canada (Mr. Lafontaine), and who had been the leader of the administration for his section of the Province, and in reference to whom it is unnecessary for me to say now, for I have often had an opportunity of doing so before, that I have always looked up to him with the highest respect and admiration, had then announced his intention of withdrawing at the close of that Parliament from public life altogether. Under these circumstances, we felt that the best course we could pursue was to endeavor to carry on the public business of the country during the few days that had to elapse before the close of the session, and to resign at the earliest moment that His Excellency could have an opportunity of forming a new administration. When my honorable and learned friend, Mr. Lafon-