

Mr. Powell's motion was a question of tactics. He hoped thereby to rally the Quebec members at a later stage in support of Ottawa. Several other amendments were moved on immaterial issues chiefly to adjourn the debate or to adjourn the House.

On the following day the Government resigned and Mr. George Brown was called in to form an Administration. As soon as the new Cabinet was sworn in its members resigned their seats and sought re-election. On the motion for the issue of the several writs of election, it was moved in amendment that the words "and that this House while ordering the issue of the writ feel it their duty to declare that the Administration, the formation of which has created the vacancy, does not possess the confidence of this House and of the country" be added at the end thereof. The amendments in all cases were carried by substantial majorities. Mr. Brown pressed His Excellency for a dissolution claiming that the request was a constitutional right. His Excellency however refused to recognize that principle and the new Government had no alternative but to send in their resignation.

His Excellency first sent for Mr. Galt and requested him to form an Administration; he having failed, Mr. Cartier, who had been Attorney General for Quebec in the former Administration, was then sent for and the task committed to his hands. The members of the former Government (except three) were recalled, accepting other offices than those they originally held: Mr. Galt replacing Mr. Loranger, Mr. George Sherwood replacing Mr. Cayley and Mr. Cartier becoming Prime Minister in the room of Sir John A. Macdonald.

As the Brown-Dorion Cabinet were then seeking re-election the Reform Press denounced the action of the Governor General as a breach of constitutional rule and pointed out that the return of Mr. Cartier and his colleagues to office without re-election was in direct violation of the Constitution alleging that they dare not go back to their