

that the conduct of the local Administration during the last four years has not been in accordance with these principles, and we feel constrained thus early most respectfully to state to your Excellency, that your Constitutional Advisers have not conducted the Government of the Province in the true spirit of our Colonial Constitution."

Messrs. Street, Wilmot, Gray, were the leading speakers on the Government side. Messrs. Ritchie, Tilley, Johnson, Smith, Harding, in opposition. Heavy blows were exchanged; but it was evident that the fate of the Government was sealed; day after day as the debate progressed new converts were made to the opposition ranks. Those "doubtful" gentlemen who kept their hands under their desks unwilling to show them to either party or to commit themselves by word or look until they could satisfy themselves beyond a doubt which side would preponderate, now gradually, one by one, emerged from their shells, and at the last moment threw themselves into the arms of the Opposition, and became great Liberals! On the night of the 27th, the eve before the final division was to take place, the exact position of every member was fixed and understood. The whole Province appeared to be in a state of excitement. The wires connecting with St. John were in continual operation, flashing along the probabilities of the result. Never were the people more *political* on any occasion—the Liberals at the prospect of finally conquering their old opponents—the Conservatives that all their power and prestige were about to be wrested from their grasp for the first time and forever since the Province was portioned off from Nova Scotia. The grounds of attack and defence may be thus summarised. It was charged against the Government, by Mr. Fisher, the leader of the Opposition, who had been one of them, but recently retired, that his *confreres* submitted to an undue exercise of authority on the part of Sir Edmund Head. In this wise—Chief Justice Chipman had retired from the Bench; and it was the wish of the Government to reduce the number of Judges to three, and the Master of the Rolls to act as one of the Judges, making four; this vacation of the Chief Justiceship furnished the opportunity, they thought, and at the same time would