

*Report.*

*Answer.*

be most unjust, for it was the proper and perhaps only course (certainly at first) that His Excellency could adopt, viz. : to refer my charges, as he did, to the law officers of the Crown. I must, however, now take the liberty to resume those expressions, with reference to the Crown officers themselves,—and I do so out of no disrespect to them either.

The imputation of almost any motive would be flattering, rather than the imputations which they would cast upon themselves, viz. : that their reasoning powers are of such infirmity as to induce them to abandon all attempts at investigation of truth, if the facts of a case may happen to be at all in controversy, and that they labour under such obtuseness of moral perception as not to see and feel the judicial turpitude of the conduct that I have laid to the door of Mr. Shiels. I cannot, I will not, infer this. I understand the gentlemen alluded to, to be of high professional reputation and much public estimation generally, in the Province of Nova Scotia. But the miserable politics of the Province are notorious. Party strife, none the less virulent, because there is no distinguishing principle on either side—merely ins and outs. Mr. Shiels boasts, as he calls it, his “service to the state in old,” and I am told that he really has been a serviceable party tool. They were bound to support him.—The work had to be done.—I will only say that I think it might have been done a little more artistically,—for *evasion* has degenerated into *clumsy shuffling*, and *smothering* to *transparent trickery*.

GEO. P. DAWSON.

*Dartmouth, N. S., Jan'y. 26, 1863.*