

leges were assailed and whose vested rights were in danger. The contest which he maintained for years with the Governor and all the dignitaries of the day was one of matchless interest. He was intensely loyal, and, therefore, never dreamed of violence, like William Lyon Mackenzie, or Papineau, but without murmur, he shut himself out from all the sweets of social life which were most congenial to him, and where he could above all others shine, and maintained a long and bitter warfare, appealing straight from the dignitaries to the people. As he had a large stock of personal vanity, there were many features in this contest which were agreeable to Mr. Howe—especially the idolatry he received from the masses as he travelled over the province, attending picnics, dinners, and public gatherings of all kinds.

The last Governor of Nova Scotia who made a struggle to preserve the prerogative, and drive back the rising tide of popular government, was Lord Faulkland—a proud, handsome, and vain man. Between this nobleman and his Cabinet and Howe there was waged perpetual war, which culminated in Howe's triumph and Lord Faulkland's departure.

It would require a volume to record the incidents of this warfare. Howe was editor of the *Nova Scotian*, since become the *Morning Chronicle*, then, as now, the Liberal organ of the province. In this he peppered the Governor with pasquinades, and rolled out an inexhaustible fund of ridicule, humor and satire, prose and poetical, which set the whole province laughing, and made every Tory magnate grind his teeth with rage. He would, perhaps, be open to the charge of descending to unfair and indelicate methods if the lampooning had been all on one side; but it was well known that the Governor directly inspired his Tory adherents to berate and abuse Howe, and retaliation was thus amply justified. The only difficulty was that

the Governor and his allies got badly worsted, and then began to upbraid Howe for indecent attacks upon the representative of the Crown.

Lord Faulkland exhibited little judgment in his methods of governing Nova Scotia, and betrayed a sorry lack of appreciation of the constitutional limitations of his office, and, as a consequence, he included in his official despatches to the Colonial Secretary gross attacks upon Howe and his political associates. His idea was manifestly to taboo from public and social life everyone who dared ally himself with Howe.

On one occasion a despatch was brought down to the House in which the Governor had referred to a company, of which Mr. (afterwards Sir William) Young and his brother George were members, in terms of a very insulting character. They were said to be the associates of "reckless and insolvent men."

The Youngs, both members of the House, were quite stunned by the reading of the despatch, which was altogether false and unwarranted. There was at the time a profound regard for the gubernatorial office, and the incident would have passed without reference in the House if Howe had not been there. But the occasion was too tempting to him. He rose, and said in substance as follows:—

"I should but ill discharge my duty to the House or to the country if I did not, on the instant, enter my protest against the infamous system pursued (a system of which I can speak more freely now than the case is not my own), by which the names of respectable colonists are libelled in despatches sent to the colonial office, to be afterwards published here, and by which any brand or stigma may be placed upon them without their having any means of redress. If that system is continued, some colonist will, by and by, or I am mistaken, hire a black fellow to horsewhip a Lieutenant-Governor."