

authority, as well as former decisions in this House, sustain the motion of the honorable member for Peel. In 1843, when an Address was passed in this House, sustaining the stand which Hon. Mr. BALDWIN had taken, in Sir CHARLES METCALFE'S time—after it had passed, an amendment to the Address was moved, but the Speaker who occupied your place ruled the motion to be out of order, and an appeal being made to the House, the House sustained the appeal, and the Address was amended by the passing of an amendment moved by Mr. BOULTON. I say, then, that the Honorable Attorney General West need not have taken credit to himself for not having appealed against the decision of the Chair, because he must have known that the authorities were against him. (Hear, hear.) The honorable gentleman is no doubt possessed of astuteness. No one can manifest greater astuteness than he displays in adapting himself to any new position in which he may find himself. There is not a public man in the country who has maintained his ground so long, in opposition to so many public questions on which he has at last submitted to change his opinions, and which he has finally carried in some shape or other, with the aid of his opponents. (Hear, hear.) Was not the secularization of the Clergy Reserves opposed by that honorable gentleman from the time he came into Parliament in 1844, until 1854—a period of ten years? Did he not declare it was a spoliation of church property? Did he not oppose the demand to have the seigniors deprived of their rights? Did he not call that a spoliation also? Did he not oppose the introduction of the elective principle into the Legislative Council? Did he not, by his speeches and by his votes, declare it was a republican movement, and that we might as well give up the Constitution of this country and adopt that of the United States, as have an elected Legislative Council? But after having battled for ten years against these questions—the abolition of the Seigniorial tenure, and the elective Legislative Council—questions which caused the rebellion in Lower Canada—and that of the Clergy Reserves, which Lord SYDENHAM declared to be the cause of the rebellion in Upper Canada—questions which shook the foundations of society, and brought, not only civil strife, but war—the honorable gentleman gave up the opposition he had maintained for ten years, and in order to get a seat on the Treasury benches, and to

keep his party in power, tamely submitted, and subjected himself to the humiliation of carrying out those measures. Yet he claims to have been consistent! Those three great questions—and others which had occupied the attention of the country, and had caused the greatest political antagonism between parties—those questions were carried by the honorable gentleman, by acting on that side of the House with the very parties to whom he had been opposed in those questions; and with the aid of renegade reformers, he was permitted for nearly ten years to keep possession of the Treasury benches. (Hear, hear.) I am sorry to see that the same course has been pursued in the formation of this Government. What was done in 1854 was repeated in 1864. (Hear, hear.)

MR. A. MACKENZIE—Who moved that the honorable gentlemen, representing the Liberal party, should go into the Government?

HON. J. S. MACDONALD—I found they were going—with the engine at full speed—and that nothing could restrain them. (Laughter.) I found that all the drags that could be put upon the wheels could not stop them from going there. I saw it was impossible to stop them, and I said therefore—"In the name of Goodness, go. True, only those places are made for you, and three may as well go in, although I would prefer that there were three more, and then we might look to get some justice."

MR. A. MACKENZIE—You voted against the motion, that the proposition for three members of the Opposition entering the Cabinet be rejected.

HON. J. S. MACDONALD—The honorable gentleman is mistaken.

MR. A. MACKENZIE—I am not mistaken. I moved the resolution myself.

HON. J. S. MACDONALD—I voted first against the basis.

HON. MR. BROWN—No, no.

HON. J. S. MACDONALD—I stated that I would not commit myself to the explanations which had been made.

MR. H. F. MACKENZIE.—If the honorable gentleman will permit me, I will read from the published proceedings of the meeting. The honorable gentleman did not vote against the basis:—

It was moved by Mr. H. F. MACKENZIE, seconded by Mr. MCGIVERN, That we approve of the course which has been pursued by Mr. BROWN in the negotiations with the Government, and that we approve of the project of a Federal union of the Canadas, with provision for