

Their successors were appointed, and then their resignation was formally announced.

Mr. WILMOT said he wished to ask of the House time to form a new Government, and desired an adjournment till Monday afternoon at half-past two.

Mr. SMITH said it was usual, under such circumstances, to adjourn, and he should express no objection.

Mr. OTTY then gave notice that he should, on 'Tuesday next', move a series of Resolutions in opposition to those passed by the Legislative Council on the question of Union.

The House then adjourned till Monday afternoon at half-past 2, P. M.

J. MARCH.

MARCH.

MONDAY, APRIL 16th.

After the Journals were read, His Honor the Speaker remarked that it was unnecessary to proceed with the third reading of the Bills before them, because there would be no time for the Legislative Council to assent to them, as the Legislature was to be prorogued at three o'clock.

Mr. SMITH, in resuming, said he understood that the Government had condescended to give him permission to reply to a speech made by a member of the Government in the Legislative Council, which was an attack upon him. He trusted that they would not exercise and prostitute the prerogative of the Crown to prevent any person speaking upon a point upon which they feel they have a right to speak. (Mr. Wilmot said that

He had not been informed that the House was to be prorogued at three o'clock. Mr. Smith said that showed the way the business was carried on. The leader of the Government stated—after the announcement made by you—that he does not know that this House is to be prorogued at three o'clock. Who governs the country, the Governor or his constituents?

that they wanted the paper in order to prepare their answer, which it would take some time to prepare. The Government then ordered copies of the paper to be sent to the several learned and experienced advocates at the High Court. Everyone wished to make, taking them away with him and seeming satisfied, for he made no complaint. It is a novel proceeding to ask for a paper of that importance to be returned while the controversy was going on, but the most remarkable thing is that one paper was sent to them, and a different one was published in the Royal Gazette, in which material alterations had been made. That very night another paper, in which other alterations were made, was telegraphed through to St. John without waiting for their answer, and for this the public will have to pay. Should that paper, in which serious charges were made against him, have been published in the Royal Gazette without his reply? He would leave it to the House and country to say if that was fair. In reference to R-sponsible Government, he would read a passage from His Excellency's communication as published in the Royal Gazette.

"His Excellency may be in error, but he believes that a vast change has already taken place in the opinions held on this subject in New Brunswick. He fully anticipates that the House of Assembly will yet return a response to the communication made to them not less favorable to the principle of Union than that given by the Upper House."

They were elected upon the anti-Confederate ticket, and His Excellency expresses the hope that they will be recreant to their trust, and that they will, like the Legislative Council, pass an Address opposing the Quebec Scheme, and ask Her Majesty to force it upon the people of this country by Imperial Legislation. His Excellency goes on to say:

"In any event he relies with confidence on the desire of a great majority of the people of the Province to aid in building up a powerful and prosperous nation under the sovereignty of the British Crown. To their verdict His Excellency is ready and willing to appeal."

'This last clause was not in the manuscript submitted to the Government. One paper was given to them, another published in the Gazette, and another sent to Mr. John, and these three were all different. There is no justification for these alterations. In another part he says:

"The Lieutenant Governor, of course, is that previous communication between himself and his advisers as to any step he is about to take, is, when practicable, both desirable and essential."

The word *essential* seems to imply that
was his duty to consult his Council;
but that word is not in the manuscript
submitted to them, but has been substituted
for the word *convenient*.

MR. WILMOT said there was a very rough copy of the original kept, which was the reason His Excellency wished it sent back in order that they could have a copy of it.

Mr. WILLISTON said that if he right-ly understood Mr. Smith he agreed at the same time to give the paper back.

Mr. SMITH said he told Captain Hal-

lowest that he could not return it, as an answer had to be prepared to it. His Excellency goes on to make other alterations. He says:

² So saying was His Excellency's wish that the contents of his Reply should be known to the Council before its delivery."

That was added to the paper submitted to them, and it puts a different face upon the document. He (Mr. S.) would ask the House why it was, if His Excellency had so strong a wish for the contents of his reply to be known to his Council, that he used such unbecoming haste in returning an answer? Did he expect this effort, the Legislative Council would be successful, and the British Government would form the Quebec Scheme upon the people of this country. As sure as the sun sets in the west they will reject and censure any such attempt. He (Mr. S.) felt satisfied that many of those gentlemen who desired Confederation wished to obtain it by constitutional means, and not desire by coercion to force Confederation upon the people. He believed they would, *positively*, seek to obtain

"I pick up in the people of this country a
 prejudice which they have rejected. There
 must be a hidden hand in the matter, for
 the answer of His Excellency to the Le-
 gislative Council was known to several
 members of the Opposition a day or two
 before it was delivered. If that be true
 it is not lamentable and outrageous that
 such a state of things exist. The ques-
 tion to be considered is not Confederation
 or anti-Confederation, but it is a great
 constitutional question. If he (Mr. S.)
 was the worst man that ever lived, it
 could be no excuse for His Excellency
 not consulting with his advisers, against
 whose character he could say nothing, for
 it was due to them that they should be
 consulted. The intelligence of the peo-
 ple of this country has been insulted by
 His Excellency's telling them that his not
 consulting his Executive Council was the
 result of an accident. He (Mr. S.) felt
 assured that many of the members of the
 Legislative Council would now be willing
 to retrace their steps, for they feel that
 injustice has been perpetrated upon
 the country. He did not know whether
 the House was prorogued in view of a
 resolution or not, but he was satisfied
 at this transaction must inevitably end
 in a dissolution, in order that the people
 may express an opinion upon their con-
 cerns. He would now call attention to
 some resolutions which were now pending
 before the House, in order that they
 may see exactly the position they were in.
 There was an important principle in these
 resolutions, for they contained not only a
 declaration of confidence in the Government,
 but in the Governor himself. Mr. Smith
 then read the following Resolutions, mod-
 ified by Mr. Ostry:

turn the paper. He (Mr. S.) replied