

ment ; they leave untouched the great Evil of the disadvantageous Comparison which is constantly before the Eyes of the People when they look at the Administration of the Imperial Government by the King, and that of the Provincial Government by his Representative. They see the former always so far consulting the Wishes of His People as never to keep in his Councils Persons who have not the Confidence of their Representatives ; while in the Administration of their own Government they see the mere Representative of that Sovereign constantly surrounded by those very Individuals of whom, sometimes with Reason and perhaps sometimes without, they have become distrustful and jealous ; and they very naturally ask the Question, Why are not our Representatives to be paid as much Attention to by the King's Deputy as the Representatives of our Fellow Subjects in England by the King himself ? Astute Reasonings may no doubt be framed, and fine Distinctions, drawn upon the Subject ; but this is a plain common-sense and practical View of it, out of which, be assured, it will be impossible, ultimately to persuade the Yeomanry of Upper Canada. You may indeed, by strenuously insisting on the Inapplicability of this Principle to their Situation, drive them to insist on a more extended System of elective Institutions. By refusing what no one can deny to be an English Principle, the same upon which your Lordship and your Colleagues were selected to fill the high and responsible Situations which you hold in His Majesty's Councils, the same by which you at this Moment continue to retain those Places, you may indeed divert their Attention to another Direction, and drive them to call for the Power of electing their own Governor and their own Executive, but you never can persuade them to abandon the Object of obtaining more Influence than they now possess through their Representatives in the Administration of the Executive Government of the Colony.

I now come to the Consideration of the fourth Remedy, which consists of nothing more than having the Provincial Government, as far as regards the internal Affairs of the Province, conducted by the Lieutenant Governor (as Representative of the paramount Authority of the Mother Country), with the Advice and Assistance of the Executive Council acting as a Provincial Cabinet, and composed of Men possessed of the public Confidence, whose Opinions and Policy would be in harmony with the Opinions and Policy of the Representatives of the People. This, as I have before said, I look upon, not only as an efficient Remedy, but as the only efficient one that can be applied to the Evils under which the Province is at present suffering.

I shall avoid troubling your Lordship with any Observations upon the Construction of the Constitutional Act, because, not only has the Subject already been fully entered into in the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Assembly, but I sincerely believe Matters to have arrived at that Point when it really signifies nothing whether it be or be not *required* by the Charter. The only Question worth discussing is, whether it is or is not expedient that the Principle should be applied to it ; and for this Purpose, all that it is necessary to ascertain in the first instance is, that there is nothing in the Charter which forbids the Application of such a Principle. That this is the Case, as it has never been denied, and as the Principle in its practical Application consists in fact merely in the ordinary Exercise of the Royal Prerogative, will, I take it for granted, be readily admitted. The Concession of the Principle therefore calls for no Legislative Interference ; it involves no Sacrifice of any constitutional Principle ; it involves no Sacrifice of any Branch of the Royal Prerogative ; it involves no Diminution of the paramount Authority of the Mother Country ; it produces no such Embarrassment to the Home Government as in the present State of the Imperial Parliament the Attempt to grant an elective Legislative Council would be almost certain to do. From being an English Principle, it would strengthen the Attachment of the People to the Connexion with the Mother Country, and would place the Provincial Government at the Head of public Opinion, and enable it to influence, if not guide, that public Opinion, instead of occupying its present invidious Position,—of being always in direct Opposition to it.

But, in addition to these Advantages, which this Remedy possesses in an eminent Degree over all others that have been suggested, it would be found effectual for the Purposes desired. Permit me to re-state those Objects : they were, first, that the different Branches of the Provincial Government should be brought to act in harmony with each other ; and, secondly, that the People

No. 16.
Lord Glenelg
to
Sir F. B. Head,
20th August 1836.

Enclosures.