

Lord Gosford as administrator of the Government. His services during the outbreak justly entitle him to the confidence of the people. His attention was first directed towards organizing the local Government under the terms of the Act of the Imperial Government—suspending the Constitution of Lower Canada. In this he met the approval of the true friends of the country, and loyalty in his selections was not overlooked as it had been by others; for his arrangements excluded from the councils individuals whose former conduct did not entitle them to the confidence of Government.

The outbreak had had one good effect in proving to the Home Government that the system of temporising, of concessions, and even of sacrifices was not calculated to promote the welfare of the country. Lord Durham was sent with a title and powers which none of his predecessors had enjoyed. How all these came to vanish in smoke, is not the most pleasing reflection for the colonists. His first step was to set aside the arrangements of his predecessor in the formation of his councils, which were all blended in one, of which he was the sum total himself, for they were all of his own household. Both the executive and legislative departments were, with few exception, entrusted to strangers to the laws, habits, and institutions of the country, and of course could not be expected to enjoy its confidence. His *attaches* compromised him by their language, such as stating at the outset that the Canadians had been right to rebel; one of them adding in one instance that he was “surprised that they had not fled naked into the woods from despair.”

Whatever may have been the motive for such declarations, and from what I have heard I have reason to say that it was far from being creditable to their authors, much mischief has been the result notwithstanding subsequent explanations. The first act of Lord Durham was the disposing of the poli-