

greater proportion was now claimed, besides Chap. certain arrears to the amount of £30,000, ^{XXIII.} which commissioners of Lower Canada 1822. refused.

The legislature of Upper Canada, thinking that province aggrieved, in the result of the negotiations with the commissioners of this province,* took early measures to bring the subject under consideration of the imperial government. An agent was appointed, pursuant to an act passed for the purpose, and a suitable appropriation made to defray the expenses of his voyage to England. Notice of this measure was officially forwarded to the government of Lower Canada, but came too late for the session, which was prorogued on the 18th of February. The governor observed :—

“ That on a full consideration of the situation of affairs, and of the peculiar circumstances which had led to it, he was satisfied that no benefit to the public could be expected from a continuance of the session, and he had therefore determined to prorogue the provincial parliament.”

He expressed his “ regret that it should have been thought proper to have recourse to the unusual practice of withholding the necessary supplies,” but observed (sarcastically ?)—that whatever might have been the intention of that measure, he was happy to state that it would not at all affect the administration of his Majesty’s civil government, or of justice, or the officers employed in either of those departments.—That the effects would fall entirely on the local establishments, and be felt highly injurious to the interests of his Majesty’s loyal and faithful subjects in this province.”

* These were Mr. Papineau, Mr. Cuvillier, Mr. Neilson, Mr. Davidson, and Mr. Garden, all members of the assembly, and named by it in the act under which they were to negotiate. The commissioners for Upper Canada, were appointed by the executive government, under an act of the legislature of that province.