

Chap. patch which I addressed to your lordship on the 25th Janu-
 xxxiv. ary, 1832, respecting the case of Mr. Christie. These reso-
 ~~~~~ lutions state that the house of assembly duly appreciate his  
 1831. Majesty's acknowledgment of the right of all his subjects  
 to such assistance as he can afford for the redress of any  
 grievance under which they labour, but that the house has  
 seen, with regret, that his Majesty has been advised to act  
 upon his gracious intention in this respect, in a case where the  
 privileges of the assembly are concerned. The resolutions  
 further state, that in expelling Mr. Christie, the house exer-  
 cised a privilege frequently exercised by the house of com-  
 mons, and by representative bodies in the colonies—that the  
 house is the sole judge of the cases in which it ought to  
 exercise this privilege—that the resolutions transmitted with  
 your lordship's message, and purporting to be resolutions of  
 freeholders and electors of Gaspé, are false, scandalous, and  
 malicious—finally, that the resolutions passed in the county  
 of Gaspé, and the letter from Mr. Christie by which they  
 are accompanied, should be expunged from the journals of  
 the assembly. With respect to that resolution, which ex-  
 presses the regret of the house that, in a case where the pri-  
 vileges of the assembly are concerned, his Majesty has been  
 advised to act upon his gracious intention to acknowledge  
 the right of all his subjects to such assistance as he can afford  
 for the redress of any grievances under which they labour, I  
 have to assure your lordship that I shall always feel concern-  
 ed in being informed that the assembly regrets any step which  
 his Majesty may be advised to adopt respecting the affairs  
 of Lower Canada. On the present occasion, however, I  
 must observe, that unless it had been thought proper to re-  
 commend the total suppression of a petition from one of his  
 subjects, his Majesty could scarcely have been advised to  
 pursue any other course than to refer the alleged grievance  
 to the body by which it was said to have been inflicted, in  
 order that if unfounded, it might be declared to be so—if  
 well founded, it might be redressed. In this single observa-  
 tion is comprised the whole of what I have to remark to your  
 lordship on that part of the resolution which regards the pro-  
 priety of having communicated to the assembly Mr. Chris-  
 tie's petition.

“ But I will not conceal the general regret with which I