

adopt it, the last end of Imperial rule in this Island would even be worse than the first.

Such a construction of the act never was dreamed of by the loyal people of the New Dominion.

If, however, there has been an oversight in that act, it has been corrected! a lucky oversight in the present act. While the appointment of a commissioner is clearly vested in "the Governor General in council," there is a provision in sections II, V, and VII, for "the assent of the Governor General," *i. e.* of Her Majesty's representative. If the assent has been given by him "*in council*," *i. e.* merely as the mouth-piece of the Canadian Cabinet, and not as the Queen's representative, the assent is invalid, and the proceedings under the act could be annulled. I feel fully assured that Her Gracious Majesty, even if such a technicality were at hand, would never consent to avail herself of it, and to surrender her sovereignty over the people of this Island, not as a concession of freedom to colonists, but as a mode of evading the obligations and responsibilities of the Crown.

Under these circumstances, I respectfully beg leave to urge either that Her Majesty should refuse her assent to this act, and should thereby annul all proceedings under it, or else that the British government should consider the subject of compensating the proprietors for the loss of their arrears of rent in 1864, and the confiscation of the property under the Land Purchase Act of 1875.

I need not apologize to your Lordship for writing so plainly and so strongly of this first attempt at communism and its results, for I am persuaded that, as a member of a Conservative Cabinet, Your Lordship, when