

possible to secure harmony in any other way than by administering the Government of Canada on those principles which have been found perfectly efficacious in Great Britain. The Crown must submit to the necessary consequences of Representative institutions, and if it has to carry on the Government in unison with a representative body, it must carry it on by means of those in whom that representative body has confidence."

As long ago as the year 1828, Lord Stanley stated, with reference to Canada, "I do think that something might be done with great advantage to give a *really responsible character to the Executive Council*, which at present is a perfect anonymous body, hardly recognised by the Constitution, and effective chiefly as a source of patronage."

The following formed part of an address of the House of Assembly of this Province shortly afterwards, and *which House was composed principally of Tories*. "We cannot think that it was intended to give a power of interference with our *internal affairs*. Against such an interference, however, we respectfully, but plainly protest, as inconsistent with those sacred principles which are essential to a free Government, since it is manifest that if your Majesty's Ministers, at a distance of four thousand miles *and not at all controulable or accountable to your Majesty's subjects here*, and possessing necessarily a slight and imperfect knowledge of the circumstances of the country, the wants and habits and feelings of the inhabitants and the mode of transacting business among us, can dictate a different course *in relation to measures affecting ourselves only*, from that which the people by their Representatives and with the concurrence of the other branches of the Provincial Legislature have chosen, we are reduced to a state of mere dependence upon the will and pleasure of a

ministry who are *irresponsible to us, and beyond the reach and operation of the public opinion of the Province*."

And again the same principle was insisted upon by the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously, with the exception of two dissenting voices, in the second session of the 12th Provincial Parliament. "Resolved, That this House considers the appointment of a *Responsible Executive Council to advise the Governor or person administering the Government, on the affairs of this Province*, to be one of the most happy and wise features in our Constitution and essential to our Government, and as being one of the strongest securities for a just and equitable administration of the Government and for the full enjoyment of our civil and religious rights and privileges."

We presume therefore, that we will not be incurring high displeasure, if we keep within the limits prescribed and acknowledged by her Majesty's Ministers and other Constitutional authorities, and we are happy to see that the views of the Reformers of Canada upon Responsible Government are sustained by Imperial authority, and by the best and wisest of English Statesmen.

Sir Charles Metcalfe therefore differs both with the Canadian people and with the foregoing declarations of her Majesty's Ministers and of the other Members of the Imperial Parliament. Whilst the resolutions of 1841, declare that his Administration is to be conducted by heads of departments enjoying our confidence, and responsible to our Parliament, and that he shall be guided by the advice of his Council in all our local affairs—he declares at one time that Responsible Government is still undefined—another that he is not bound to advise with his Council at all—at another that he will do so upon cases of adequate importance, (of which by the way he is to be the judge)