

gour and life to this great commercial machine. *And I insist and maintain, that the best and most natural means of making it move with spirit and success, will be a free Government and elective representation.* The power to excite and animate industry ought to be placed in the hands of those persons, who probably, from their pursuits, are obliged to make mercantile affairs their principal study and employment.

Extract from the Protest by the Hon. Henry Hamilton, Esq. Lieutenant Governor of the Province, and Member of the Legislative Council, made in Council, April 1784.

DISSENTIENT,

1st. *The state and circumstances of the Province are totally changed since the publication of the Quebec Act; its present limits, the independence of its neighbours, the establishment of the loyalists, with their families, in it—these things involve matter for the most serious consideration, and require answers to the following questions :—Is the Province at present in the most advantageous situation? Are the laws, the trade of the Province, and the privileges and liberty of the people, upon that footing that is most likely to excite*
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