



ADDRESS OF THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF TORONTO TO SIR FRANCIS BOND HEAD,
ON THE SUBJECT OF THE DISTRESS OCCASIONED BY THE STOPPAGE OF THE SUPPLIES:
WITH HIS EXCELLENCY'S ANSWER THERETO.

To His Excellency SIR FRANCIS BOND HEAD,
Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian
Guelphic Order, and of the Prussian Military
Order of Merit, Lieutenant Governor of the Pro-
vince of Upper Canada, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

WE the Inhabitants, Electors of the City of Toronto beg to renew to Your Excellency the expression of cordial approbation of Your conduct in the administration of the Government, which on the occasion of Your Excellency's difference of opinion with the late Executive Council, we had the honor of submitting to you.

The sentiments expressed by us then, remain unchanged, but the state of affairs has since that time materially altered. Notwithstanding the expression of public opinion on that question, and although the arguments justifying Your Excellency's course are yet unanswered—the House of Assembly with regard to the mischievous consequences which must result from such a procedure, and in the absence of any such emergency as alone could justify them in adopting it, allowed the time fixed for the prorogation to arrive without making any provisions for the public service. This measure as might well have been expected, has had the effect of preventing any other bills being passed for the expenditure of public money, and has for the time put a stop to the course of much needed improvements. In consequence the business of this city is already suffering. The Mechanics who before found ample employment, are leaving by hundreds, and every man among us is feeling the stagnation of improvement and active employment which the want of the usual supplies has caused. That Your Excellency should recede from the conclusion which you have adopted, is not only undesired by us, but we should deprecate any abandonment of your declared policy.—That the present House of Assembly will meet the wishes of their Constituents and change their line of conduct by following one which would give to the country the immediate benefit of those measures which Your Excellency's Instructions, communicated by Message, had intimated and which the Country requires, is in our opinion not to be hoped. We are therefore left to the prospect of a loss of valuable time and of severe pressure on all classes of Society throughout the Province, so long as the present Representatives continue to hold their seats. There is one obvious remedy presents itself—a remedy which however rests in the Royal Prerogative, and we appeal to Your Excellency to give the case your careful consideration, and to take such speedy measures for our relief as the necessities of the country seem to require.

We avoid referring particularly to many other considerations of public affairs which tend strongly to fortify our appeal, as we are satisfied that they will not be overlooked by Your Excellency, and that the state of the Province is such as renders the relief we pray for, alike necessary and just.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

GENTLEMEN.—No one can be more sensible than I am, that the stoppage of the Supplies has caused a general stagnation of business, which will probably end in the ruin of many of the inhabitants of this city; and in proportion as the Metropolis of the Province is impoverished, the Farmer's market must be lowered,—for, how can he possibly receive money when those who should consume his produce are seen flying in all directions from a land from which industry has been publicly repelled?

But I am guiltless of the distress which Upper Canada must shortly most bitterly endure; for, in my Legislative capacity I have never lost an opportunity of entreating that I might be assisted in attracting into this Province, by tranquillity, the wealth and population of the Mother Country. In this simple, peaceful doctrine I have, however, been opposed by a fatal declaration, which emanated, I regret to say, from the Metropolitan County, that "THE CONSTITUTION WAS IN DANGER!!!—and that "the grand object was to STOP THE SUPPLIES!"

Well, Gentlemen, this "grand object" has been gained for you, and what, I ask, has been the result?

The Clerks and Messengers of the Government Offices, who during a long Session have laboured unremittingly for the public service, are now surrounded by their families, perhaps penniless. Money, which would not only have improved your roads, but would have given profit and employment to thousands of deserving people, is now stagnant;—the sufferers in the late war have lost the remuneration, which was absolutely almost in their hands;—Emigration has been arrested; and instead of the English yeoman's arriving with his capital in this free British country, its mechanics in groups are seen escaping from it in every direction, as if it were a land of pestilence and famine;—all just claim for assistance from the Mother Country has vanished;—every expectation of relief from internal industry is hourly diminishing.

In the flourishing Continent of North America, the Province of Upper Canada now stands like a healthy young tree that has been girdled, its drooping branches mournfully betraying that its natural nourishment has been deliberately cut off.

With feelings of deep melancholy I acknowledge myself to have been apparently defeated.

The object of my mission—my exertions—my opinions—my earnest recommendations, have been received by language to which I have no desire to allude, and the grand object of "stopping the Supplies" is now termed by its promoters the "Victory of Reform."

Gentlemen, I have no hesitation in saying, that another such victory would ruin this country. But this opinion is hourly gaining ground, and the good sense of the country has been aroused, the yeoman has caught a glimpse of his real enemy—the Farmer begins to see who is his best friend—in short, people of all denominations, of all religions, of different politics, rallying round the British Flag, are now loudly calling upon me to grant them constitutional redress.

When the verdict of the country shall have been sufficiently declared, I will promptly communicate my decision.