

*will and pleasure*, which he calls Responsible Government.

We are not surprised at his Excellency's adherence to the Resolutions of 1841, with these qualifications : neither is it extraordinary that the enemies of constitutional government should uphold his Excellency. But we wish you to ask yourselves, What have you been contending so long against, but the arbitrary and ill-advised *will and pleasure of Governors*, and whether you will be satisfied with a constitution held upon that tenure ?

In one of the Governor General's late replies to a popular address, His Excellency has stated the intentions of his political opponents to be, that the whole power of the State should be usurped by the Executive Council exercising undue influence over the House of Assembly, or by the House of Assembly exercising unlimited interference in the Executive administration.

We ask you to consider what interference with a House of Assembly could be exercised by an Executive Council responsible to the Provincial Parliament, which could not be made to an equal or greater extent by a Governor General irresponsible to any power in the colony ?

Whether you have not a greater power to control and check undue interference with your representatives proceeding from an Executive Council, than if the same proceeded from a source over which you possess no control whatever ?

We ask you again to consider, whether the interference of your representatives in the Executive administration is not the great end and object of the system of Responsible Government. And whether you are prepared to uphold an arbitrary authority, over which you have no control, for the purpose of preventing this interference.

We ask you, the people of Canada, what crime have you committed, what incapacity are you willing to acknowledge which should deprive you of a right enjoyed by every nation and people on earth who possess free institutions : namely, the right of interfering with the Executive administration ? Is this the British privilege, which cannot emigrate to a colony ? Your fellow subjects in England have a constitutional government which interferes in parliamentary business, and a House of Commons which possesses influence over Executive administration. The extent of that interference, and of this influence, is regulated, not by arbitrary power, but by the moderation and good sense of a free and enlightened people. We claim for Canadian colonists the same power of regulation, in their own local affairs. We ask you, do you disclaim and disavow it ? The Queen of England exercises no arbitrary authority to save her parliament from the influence of her constitutional advisers, or her constitutional advisers from the interference of the people's representatives. Are you in such a condition as to require the exercise of power in the hands of the Queen's Representative here, which her Majesty does not use in her Imperial Government ? The argument of Sir Charles Metcalfe must be founded on his opinion of your not being intelligent, prudent, or trust-worthy ; he therefore requires a power in himself