

of the connexion between the two countries would be happy and prosperous.

Lord Brougham opposed the bill as the most dangerous inroad which had ever been attempted on the constitution of a free country.

Viscount Melbourne defended the government from the attacks which came not only from his noble and learned predecessor in the debate, but also from the noble lords on the opposite side of the House.—Ministers had no other course left than to coerce Canada, and he anticipated the best result from the bill under discussion.

The Duke of Wellington, in supporting the bill, said the rebellion might now, perhaps be quelled; but he entreated the ministers not to suppose that it was completely got rid of.—He entreated them to proceed with their propositions, and to assemble in Canada at the earliest possible period the largest force the resources of the country would admit of. He repented, that there could be for his country no such thing as a little war; and he begged the noble Viscount, to observe, that since the 22d of December, the first day on which intelligence of the unfortunate transactions in Canada were received, not less than four important events had occurred, each of which was calculated to excite the deepest attention of the government. He knew from accounts to which the noble Viscount had referred, that the President of the United States had desired additional power in order to prevent hostilities on the part of the citizens of those states against Upper Canada, and that he had sent an officer (General Scott) to the frontiers of Canada to examine the state of things on the American side, with the view of the more effectual prevention of the threatened hostilities. It had been seen, that within a very short space, points had been raised relating to the questions of the boundary of the state of Maine, to that of the river of Columbia, to that of Mexico, besides other important subjects, and he had no doubt that in proportion as the present difficulties in the Canadas died away, other questions would arise which would require the most vigilant attention on the part of the government of this country. The government must, therefore, he repeated, not look upon this as a small affair. They should consider, and he entreated them to do so, that in proportion as they were strong in Canada they would have the countenance and support of many in the United States who would otherwise be against them, even though in doing so they might act against their consciences. Let them then, he repeated, not think the present a small affair, or that though it might be brought to an end, it ever could, without the maintenance of such a force as he had referred to, be brought to such a termination.

Lord Wharncliffe observed that the advocates of the government had defended them with such good humour as almost to disarm censure. But, however, the house should not forget the fact, that the interest of the country had been neglected by the grossest remissness and that blame should be attached to ministers for having so arranged matters so as to bring them to their present unfortunate condition.—Those things the country will require of them to answer. He wished some further experiment to be made before they proceeded to so strong a measure as that of suspending the constitution. It might have been possible to convince the people of Lower Canada that their demands for an elective Legislative Council were totally inadmissible. He entirely concurred in the principle on which the affairs of Canada were to be conducted. It was the business of his country to do justice to both parties—to work this bill in such a manner as in the shortest possible time, a constitution fitted to the state of society in Canada should be

established. He hoped that Lord Durham would be able to do this—he did not expect a great deal from the noble lord's mission; but he trusted the noble earl would not forget the principles which he had so well advanced in this country, and would at the same time not forget those pledges he had made to his opponents.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Jan. 23.

The adjourned debate on the question that the House resolve into committee on the Canada government bill was then resumed, and continued to occupy the attention of the House to a late hour.—In the course of the debate many members spoke.

Sir W. Molesworth spoke at great length against the bill, and in conclusion said,—These fatal resolutions were the proximate cause of the present revolt; and though I must deeply lament that blood has been shed, still if the insurrection should, by sending Lord Durham to Canada, tend to bring the unhappy affairs of the province to a satisfactory settlement, I for one shall not consider that, on the whole, there will be much occasion for deep sorrow and regret on account of late events. With regard to the issue of the struggle which is now taking place in our North American colonies, I have already expressed what are my hopes, my fears and my wishes. For so doing I have been held up to public indignation, and received unmeasured abuse. But whether I am denounced as a traitor or rebel in the courteous though somewhat wearisome tones of the noble lord and member for South Lancashire, or in the more energetic vituperations of interested orators, is a matter to me of utter indifference. Not one expression which I used, not one opinion which I uttered not one word which escaped from my lips with regard to this question, do I in any way regret or retract—(loud cries of "hear, hear")—and if I do not at the present moment reiterate those sentiments it is partly out of respect for the feelings of this assembly, partly because I cannot find terms strong enough to embody my sentiments, and partly because I wish no longer to trespass upon your patience.—(Cheers.)

JANUARY 29.

On the motion of Lord J. Russell, the order of the day for the third reading of the Canada Government Bill was then read.

Sir G. Sinclair took that opportunity of expressing the deep regret he felt at being obliged to give his support to the bill. He was compelled to do so by the utter incapacity that had been shown by the government. They had not the honesty to win the friendship of the straight-forward conservatives nor the courage to repress the disaffected. In fact they had sunk to the very "nadir" of political infamy. (Cheers from the opposition benches.) They held office without power—they sought support without confidence—they exhibited pretension without talent, and profession without performance. (Cheers and laughter.) They could not manage the affairs of the nation, nor even the business of that house without the assistance, advice, and superintendence of his honorable friend (Sir R. Peel) who was as superior to them in ability and knowledge, as he was in generosity and forbearance. (Tory Cheers, and great laughter on the ministerial benches.) He (Sir George Sinclair) trusted that he would ere long, see his right hon. friend at the head of a cabinet which would pursue a straight-forward course, and relieve the country from the mortification of being ruled by an incompetent and slippery cabinet, which maintained itself by the disreputable

expedient of setting one party against the other, of both of which it was equally in dread, and by both of which it was equally despised. (Great cheering from the opposition benches.)

FIVE DAYS LATER.

From the St. John N. B. Observer.

By the arrival this morning of the ship *Mersey*, Mather, in 34 days from Liverpool, we have been favored with papers to the 13th Feb. from which we extract the following particulars on the Canada Government Bill, which our readers will perceive has been passed by the Lords, and received the Royal assent.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Monday, Feb. 5.

THE CANADA BILL.—The house resolved itself into a committee on this bill. On the motion of Lord Brougham, Mr Roebuck was called on; and addressed the House against the measure at a very great length. At the conclusion of his speech, (on which no remark was made on either side of the house) the bill went through the committee, and was ordered to be read a third time on Thursday.

THURSDAY Feb. 8.

Lord Glenelg, without remark, moved the third reading of the Canada Temporary Government Bill.

Lord Ellenborough opposed the bill on the ground that it was unnecessarily severe. He therefore, should certainly say "Not content" to the measure.

Lord Glenelg spiritedly met the objections of the noble Baron who preceded him, admitting the severity of the bill, and that great and important interests were involved in it; but there was no other course left. To have a new election in order to appeal to the House of Assembly, as had been recommended, would be futile—altogether useless. After long concessions, after repeated appeals to the candor and good sense of the House of Assembly, it resisted every effort at conciliation—clogged the wheels of government until the affairs of the colony were thrown into a state of absolute confusion.

Lord Ashburton strongly advocated a separation of the colonies from the mother country, if they could not agree together. He further contended that the value of the colonies had long been much over-rated.

The Earl of Mansfield opposed the bill, severely blaming the policy of Ministers, and contending that their present measure would not give satisfaction on either side of the Atlantic.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, on the part of Ministers, declared their firm determination to carry out the principles of the bill. A separation of the colonies from England might become necessary; the time however, for such a sweeping step had not yet arrived.

Brougham then rose, and once more attacked the bill, and congratulated himself on having, since he last attacked it, received the support of the sons of these eminent lawyers, Mansfield and Ellenborough.

Viscount Melbourne again defended the bill and urged the extreme necessity of the case as calling it into action.

After a few words from Earl Fitzwilliam, the bill was read a third time and passed.

SATURDAY, Feb. 10.

The House of Lords met this afternoon at 3 o'clock. The Royal assent was given by commission to the Lower Canada Government Bill.

His Excellency Sir George Arthur, the new Governor of Upper Canada, and a number of British Officers, have come out by the late arrivals at New York, where they have been well received, and have proceeded on their route to Montreal.