

Canadian deputies to the bill. For instance, the tory party in the colony was gained over through the publication of a despatch from Lord John Russell, regarding the appointments to governmental places; while the concurrence of the republican section of the inhabitants of the Upper Province in the measure was tried to be ensured by the suppression of another of his lordship's despatches, which would have been distasteful, if published, to the partisans of responsible government. Lord Brougham, taking part in the discussion, expressed his belief, that whenever Canada separated itself from Britain,—an event sure to arrive, soon or late,—such consummation, desirable or the contrary, would full surely be not a little hastened by an enforced conjunction, legislatively, of the people of the two provinces: who, when the time of separation came, each from the other respectively, would, through the uneasy experience of a union of populations, “paired not matched,” part as enemies rather than friends,—a contingency certain and to be deplored, thanks to the ill-judged though well-meant attempts of ministers to conciliate antipathies in themselves absolutely irreconcilable.

The Earl of Gosford was the next principal speaker in the debate. His opinions had, or at least ought to have had, all the more weight with the house of peers, as he was for some time supreme administrator in the Canadas; thereby gaining a knowledge, in the country itself, of the sentiments of the people and the force of party feeling among them. “I regard,” said he, “this union bill as a dangerous experiment in legislation, and as a measure both arbitrary and unjust in itself. If it be true, as I think it is, that its promoters press it on because they are convinced that the French population of Canada are in an organized state of resistance to British domination, there never was a more mistaken apprehension accepted for verity. For my own part, I do not believe that in any of our colonial dependencies does her Majesty rule over a people who, whether by inclination or from a regard to their own interests, have a greater desire than the Canadians (collectively) to remain on a footing of alliance and amity with Great Britain. I am not unaware, however, of the false representations which have been actively spread about this country, tending to prove the contrary of what I have now said; but my averment in the matter is soothful, and can easily be proved by confirmatory facts, which will speak for themselves. Much have we heard about what has been denominated ‘the recent revolts.’ These are high-sounding words, and well calculated to serve the uses of those who find their account in giving them currency, but, although I am ever disposed to reprove every species of insurrectionary manifestation,