

have the remedy in their own hands: if they were intrusted with the powers, which, as British subjects of right belong to them, they would only have to return a majority of their own way of thinking: few men would change places: the wishes of the majority would be carried out: and by no possibility could anything occur to bring the people and their rulers into such a state of collision as was exhibited in that fine province for a long series of years. But under the existing system, if a hostile majority is returned, what can they do? Squabble and contend with an Executive whom they cannot influence: see the patronage and favor of government lavished upon the minority who annoy, but never out-vote them: and, finally, at the expiration of a further period of ten years, appeal by delegation to England, running the hazard of a reference to a clerk or a secretary whose knowledge of the various points at issue is extremely limited, who has no interest in them, and who, however favorably disposed may be displaced by some change in the position of parties at home before the negotiations are brought to a close.

"In 1836, a general election took place in Nova Scotia: and when the Legislature met for the dispatch of business, it was found that the local government had two-thirds of the members of the representative branch against them. A fair-minded Englishman would naturally conclude that the local cabinet, by a few official changes and a modification of its policy, would have at once deferred to the views and opinions of so large a majority of the popular branch. Did it do so? No. After a fierce struggle with the local authorities, in which the revenue bills and the appropriations for the year were nearly lost, the House forwarded a strong address to the foot of the throne, appealing to the Crown for the redress of inveterate grievances the

very existence of which our Colonial rulers denied or which they refused to remove."

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"You ask me for the remedy. Lord Durham has stated it distinctly: the Colonial Governors must be commanded to govern by the aid of those who possess the confidence of the people, and are supported by a majority of the representative branch. Where is the danger? Of what consequence is it to the people of England, whether half a dozen persons, in whom that majority have confidence, but of whom they know nothing and care less, manage our local affairs, or the same number selected from the minority, and whose policy the bulk of the population distrust? Suppose there was at this moment a majority in our Executive Council who think with the Assembly, what effect would it have upon the funds? Would the stocks fall? Would England be weaker, less prosperous or less respected, because the people of Nova Scotia were satisfied and happy?"

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"The planets that encircle the sun, warmed by its heat and rejoicing in its effulgence, are moved and sustained, each in its bright but subordinate career, by the same laws as the sun itself. Why should this beautiful example be lost upon us? Why should we run counter to the whole stream of British experience, and seek, for no object worthy of the sacrifice, to govern on one side of the Atlantic by principles the very reverse of those found to work so admirably on the other. The employment of steamers will soon bring Halifax within a ten days' voyage of England. Nova Scotia will then not be more distant from London than the north of Scotland and the west of Ireland were a few years ago. No time should be lost, therefore, in giving us