

The Additions we wish to the Bill I have stated before.

With these Alterations and Additions, the Bill would, I am persuaded, give general Satisfaction to the People of the Province. It would prove a real Blessing to the Country; and be the Means of reviving Industry, improving Agriculture, and promoting Commerce, and of attaching the Inhabitants to the British Nation and Government by the strongest of all Ties, those of Interest and Gratitude.

Sir, we know that a free Government will not act like a Charm, and produce Wonders. We are sensible that it will occasion some Trouble in the First Years, till the People get accustomed to its Operations. We do not expect that every Thing is to prosper and flourish immediately on its Establishment; but we hope, and expect, that in a few Years its beneficial Consequences will be felt by the People and become evident to the Observation of Government; that the new Legislature may be able to rouse the People from their present inactive State, and by Bounties and Encouragements stimulate them to Industry, Enterprize, and Invention; and that the Indian, while encouraged to pursue his own Interest and Advantage, may be directed so as to promote the general Prosperity of the Province, and Benefit of the Empire.

Such are the Hopes we entertain of the Advantages which the united Province may derive from a liberal Constitution; and it will be our chief Glory to convince the British Nation that the Province of Quebec is, and ought to be, considered as a valuable Appendage to the Empire.

But, Sir, if the Province is to be divided, and the old System of Laws continued; if it is expected that either Part of the Province, separated as proposed in the Bill, shall in its present exhausted and impoverished State raise the Supplies for supporting the whole Expences of the Government—it will be reducing the Province to a Situation as bad as the children of Israel in Egypt, when they were required to make Bricks without Straw. The People will see that the apparent Freedom held out by the new System is