

to come. Sir, as the greatest extent of the Cultivable part of the Province Westward may be estimated at 500 miles distance from Quebec, the districts of Gaspé and Chaleur Bay are almost as far East of that Capital, being about 400 miles distance; so that Quebec is nearly in the Centre of the Cultivable part of the Province; and when the Roads are properly made, which will be the case in a few years, the distance of either of these places will not be considered as any material Objection.

This Honourable House will likewise consider, that in such an extensive Country it is impossible to fix the Residence of government, or the seat of Legislature and superior Courts in any place where some of the Members of Assembly, if they are Residents of the Districts for which they are chosen, will not have a great distance to travel; and therefore 200 or 300 miles is not an Object of consequence, more particularly when it is considered that it will be through the old settled part of the Country, where the Roads are tolerably good, Accommodations convenient, and Travelling expeditious. Besides, it cannot be expected that the new settlers will be, for some time sufficiently advanced in the cultivation of their farms to find it convenient to be absent from their Homes three or four months for the Service of the Public, either to meet the Legislature in their own Country, or at Quebec; and it is more than probable that they would, for some years at least, prefer choosing for their Deputies Gentlemen residing in Quebec and Montreal, who being connected with them in the Line of Business, will be sufficiently interested in the prosperity of these Countries to make them attend to any thing that concerns the new Settlements.

All the Trade of these Upper Settlements, must from their Situation, depend on, and Centre in Quebec and Montreal. The difficulties of communication in the Mercantile Line are already very great, and require much perseverance and industry to overcome them. This intended division will naturally create many more Obstacles: and will immediately be injurious to, and eventually operate the ruin of both Countries.

Sir,