

always be a matter which will depend on the firmness of the little on circumstances will be occasionally be no doubt, for it is a difficult and but it will doubtless tion to the Parent whatever little dis- after arise, they can ne days between the he Legislature, but es and herself; and there that conces- ? Other and minor no made, the details necessary to trouble

was introduced what ible Government," a who first used it careful not to define. consequences to which lead, if fully carried

ministered according to the and interests of the peo- of September 1841 should that it should be compe- offer advice on all occa- tronage or otherwise, and ld receive it with the a' nstitutional advisers, an- all cases of adequate im- uld be a cordial co-opera- ween him and them, and ld be responsible to the and people; and that when or are such as they do not ble for, they should be at I entirely agree with you, lity in carrying on Respon- a colony on that footing, ective parties engaged in ed by moderation, honest ee, and equitable minds,

That this House recog- nizes the true principles nt, as applicable to this

which the above is an ex- ost extraordinary phen- als of a leg- on, verbatim, of four reso- Legislature, of long ex- reports of the speeches of their own body, and the d Metcalf to an address to him by the people of nt one word of their own y be found on the 67th the Assembly for 1844.

out, or uncertain as to its practical effect, they have left it to its own operation, in the hope that experience might improve, or vigilance regulate, its motion. Colonists, who are the subjects of the experiment, are not agreed among themselves as to its import; some supposing that it means the transfer of the whole power of the Governor, who is virtually superseded, to his Council; others, that it is the substitution of party for moral responsibility, while not a few take the most extreme views, considering it, on the one hand, as a panacea for every evil, and, on the other, as fraught with destruction to all that is good, and loyal, and respectable in the country. If properly controlled, limited, and directed by the authorities at home, it is to be hoped it may be rendered, if not beneficial, at least innocuous, allaying the fears of the well affected, and disappointing the hopes of those who, having nothing to lose, are always the advocates of change. By comparing these modifications of the machinery of the Executive and Legislative bodies with their condition in

1837, and carefully perusing the resolution of the Assembly expressing their view of administration, and the dispatches of the Colonial Minister, to which I have reference, you will, I hope, be able to understand what the constitution of this colony was, what it is now, and how, when, and by whom these changes were effected.

Upon the questions which have agitated the public mind so greatly, namely, whether the Colonial Minister could legally make those organic changes without the sanction of the local or Imperial Parliament, whether they are conducive to the happiness of the people, and suited to their condition, or compatible with colonial dependence, and others of a like nature, I abstain from making any comment. My object is to give those facts, but not to argue on them. I only hope I have rendered myself intelligible; but the truth is, I take no interest in our little provincial politics, and therefore am not so much at home on the subject of these constitutional changes as Barclay is, who is in the way of hearing more about them.