

of the reasons given by Sir Edmund Head, Governor General of Canada :

[MEMORANDUM.]

Toronto, 4th August, 1858.

His Excellency, the Governor General, has received the advice of the Executive Council to the effect that a dissolution of Parliament should take place.

His Excellency is, no doubt, bound to deal fairly with all political parties : but he has also a duty to perform to the Queen and to the people of Canada paramount to that which he owes to any one party, or to all parties whatsoever.

The question for His Excellency to decide is not—what is advantageous or fair for a particular party ? But what upon the whole is the most advantageous and fair for the people of this province.....

It is not the duty of the Governor General to decide whether the action of the two Houses on Monday night was, or was not in accordance with the usual courtesy of Parliament towards an incoming administration. The two Houses are the judges of the propriety of their own proceedings.....

There are many points which require careful consideration, with reference to a dissolution at the present time. Among these are the following.

An election took place only last winter. This fact is not conclusive against a second election now, but the cost and inconvenience of a such proceeding are so great that they ought not to be increased a second time without very strong grounds."

"The business of Parliament is not yet finished. It is perhaps true that very little which is absolutely essential for the country remains to be done. A portion, however, of the estimates and two bills, at least, of great importance are still before the Legislative Assembly, irrespective of private business."

It would seem to be the duty of His Excellency to exhaust every possible alternative, before subjecting the Province for the second time in the same year to the cost, the inconvenience and demoralization of such a proceeding."

The Governor General is by no means satisfied that every alternative has been thus exhausted, or that it would be impossible for him to secure a ministry who would close the business of the session, and carry on the administration of the Government, during the recess, with the confidence of a majority of the Legislative Assembly.

After full and mature deliberation on the arguments submitted to him by word of mouth and in writing, and with every respect for the opinion of the Council, His Excellency declines to dissolve Parliament at the present time.

EDMUND HEAD.

Toronto, 4th August, 1858.

On receiving this memorandum, the majority of the two Houses, expressed their satisfaction and approbation in unmistakable terms.

The reasons alleged for the refusal of the dissolution are exactly the same as to-day.