

I must remark, that your remonstrance ought to be addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies— (Here spoke the Circumlocution Officer) (a laugh)— who would exercise his discretion as to bringing it before the Minister of Finance.” That was a way of conciliating the Colonists certainly!! A mere provincial merchant had no right to use the words “protest” and “remonstrate.” They sounded highly indecent to English ears, especially if addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Emperors and Secretaries of State were alone permitted to utter them. That was the mode in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had thought proper to address the people of British North America, men in every way superior to and different from their six pound voters who hardly knew what they were talking about. A colonist, forsooth, was told that he must not presume to approach a personage like the Chancellor of the Exchequer of all England; but that he, the mayor of a pettifogging place like St. John, New Brunswick, must go back to his own country, and then address his Governor (for no communication could be received but through him), and he would forward his protest to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who would use his own discretion, whether or not he would lay it before the Minister of Finance. (Laughter.) In all probability the Secretary of State for that department never would comply with the request, because long before the Colonist could reach his home and get