

to the nature of circumstances, by instructions which drawn up at a time when events such as subsequently occurred, could not have been contemplated. His forbearance under the gross abuse lavished upon him by the house and its Speaker, because of his opposition to the designs of men whom he well knew how to read, is entitled to the greatest approbation. However ill-appreciated or rewarded he was by the country, under his rule, there can be no question that no man could have had its welfare more at heart or more zealously and conscientiously laboured to promote it. Lord Gosford succeeded as Governor, and as chief of a commission appointed to investigate on the spot the true state of things. This measure was considered little better than supererogatory in the country itself, and as retarding the decision of a question which the Imperial Parliament was only competent to undertake.

The beginning of this administration is not calculated to give confidence to the true friends of the country. The commission completely fell into the hands of the supporters of the 92 resolutions, who were preferred to all posts of honour and profit. Its first act was the sanction in virtue of its instructions of an act of plunder on the part of the Assembly, which had illegally appropriated, without the concurrence of the Legislative Council, large sums of money, disguised under the name of contingent expenses, but which were, in fact, destined to promote agitation both here and in the Colony. What feeling must not have pervaded the true friends of the country who had supported the former administration, in its refusal to sanction such an act, to hear the head of the commission at the opening of the season of 1832 say, that he assented (cheerfully) to the violations of a constitutional principle, and of the privileges of one of the branches of the legislature.