

encourage and aid that army. But there are evils also, and while I have said that the majority of the people are loyally inclined, there are many, especially in these Western parts, lately from the States, and many disaffected, and a few of them rightly so. These are open to the advances made by the traitor, the conspirator, and the spy in the country."

"Do you mean that the country is not wisely governed?" asked the young man.

"I do, and yet I don't," returned the other. "It is not for such as me to criticize those in high places; but the truth is we have had only one Governor, who really controlled the situation, and that was Simcoe. Were he here to-day, this trouble might be more safely tided over. Official evils, of which there are far too many, would not have existed. There are too many men holding office who have got the Governor's ear and hold it, keeping him apart from the people, so that a petition can rarely reach him, and a real grievance is often made to appear as the vagary of some fool or the attack of a rebel. Then I am, you know, a Methodist, but the people not of the Established Church or of the Roman faith feel that too much power is granted to these two Churches in both Provinces. We believe that Church and State should be separated, and that all religions should be placed on the same footing. Then all through this region there is too much land given to favorites and office-holders, who secure grants, which should belong to the people—not that I want to be a grievance-monger," he added, "but I know what the people think."