

Should it be objected, that upon the plan of responsible government, it would be impossible to separate this office from politics, or argued that according to that plan, it is either necessary or expedient, that the head of the department should have a seat in the Assembly, there is not a precedent wanting, I believe (in the instance of the headship of the Board of Works, before the recent changes in that Board,) for a deviation from that rule; but whether there has been already any instance of deviation or not, it must strike any calm and disinterested observer, that whatever the plan of responsible government\* requires with regard to the management of this office, the good of the country at large, and the interests of the Crown, both require, that the whole time and the undivided attention, as I before observed, of an active, enlightened and industrious head, should be given to the object of managing it, as correctly as possible; nor can I for a moment doubt, that the representatives of the country—shortly to be in parliament assembled—would readily vote for any change which would seem likely to promote that object.

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\* All of us admitting that the most practical responsibility, or the feeling of responsibility most certain to be productive of practical good, is that which is felt by the individual to the Source of all power—I yet would not by any means be understood to make light of the idea of public officers' being held accountable to human authority for their conduct in office.