

prove fruitless as to its main object, namely, the preparation of a plan for the future Government of this part of the British Empire. Such a plan could only be framed upon ample information as to the wants, dispositions, and interests, as well conflicting as general, of every class of Her Majesty's subjects in these Colonies. I have endeavoured to gain such information from all quarters, but have not yet completed that very arduous task; still it is so near completion, that I cannot bear to think of leaving it unfinished; and, if unfinished, productive of no other result than a waste of public money, of the laborious exertions of those whom I have employed, and of the patience of the people of these Colonies, which I do solemnly assure Your Lordship may be tried overmuch. I have no doubt that, in a few weeks more, nothing essential to this object will be left undone. I shall then return to England without loss of time, for the purpose of laying at the feet of the Queen the Commissions of Governor-General and High Commissioner with which Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to honor me. And then, in my place in Parliament at least, I may be able to render my mission productive of good, by satisfying the British people and Legislature, of the absolute necessity of steadily pursuing towards these Colonies a very different policy from any that has yet been adopted by the Parent State.

His Lordship's future intentions.

Even if I can do no other good there, I shall be able to use my experience of this Colony in checking the too prevailing disposition of Parliament to decide on the vital interests of this distant community according to the principles of a Constitution, and the feelings of a state of society, the least analogous to those which prevail here. The Government of these Provinces requires something more than a knowledge of the Common and Statute Laws of England. Though the object of wise and benevolent statesmen should be to establish the great principles of the British Constitution, and the English Law in the Province, it must not be supposed that this is yet done, and I trust that the acts of future Governors will be submitted to the decision of some more competent Judges than those who profess to try such acts by the mere principles of English Law.

His Lordship's experience of the Colony will be of some use, by enabling him to correct erroneous opinions respecting it.

My acts have been despotic, because my delegated authority was despotic. Until I learn from some one better versed in the English language that despotism