

although I am of opinion that such Measures ought not to be resorted to except on Grounds of the most cogent Necessity, I am disposed, with the Information which I at present possess, to think that, committed as you were to a great Contest, and encountered by an unreasonable Employment of Weapons reserved only for extreme Emergencies, you were justified in summoning to your Aid all the Powers which the Constitution has in store for such a Crisis.

6. I now proceed to your Recommendation that Mr. Dunn should be removed from the Office of Receiver General. Disposed as I am at all Times to accede to your Wishes, I must own myself unable to comply with the present Suggestion. I have already said that I distinguish favourably Mr. Dunn's Conduct from that of his Fellow Councillors. He is chargeable neither with the Inconsistency of Messrs. Robinson, Markland, and Wells, nor with the peremptory Adherence of Messrs. Baldwin and Rolph, to the Demands made in the Letter of the 4th of March. Widely as I differ from Mr. Dunn in his Construction of the Act of 1791, I do not presume to censure his frank and firm Assertion of an opposite Judgment, which, when apprized of your Dissent, he expressed his Readiness not to urge to any practical Consequence inconsistent with the faithful Discharge of his Duty. The only other Error attributed to him is that of having written in the ordinary Language of Courtesy respecting a Proceeding of the House of Assembly—a Proceeding to which he lent no Aid or Countenance, and of which indeed he had never heard until it was officially made known to him. So far am I from reprobating Mr. Dunn's Adherence to the conventional Language of Respect, in alluding to any Act of the Representatives of the Canadian People, that I should have been ready to condemn as unprofitable and as injurious to the Cause of good Government the Employment of a less measured and ceremonious Style.

7. On referring to the Addresses from yourself to public Bodies in the Province, which accompany your Despatches, I feel Pleasure in doing Justice to the Ability, Decision, and ardent Zeal for His Majesty's Service by which they are in general characterized, and to the Soundness of many of the Principles which they assert and vindicate. But I am compelled to express, however reluctantly, a Wish that some of the Expressions contained in them had been more carefully weighed, and that you had more studiously maintained the temperate Forbearance and Reserve, by which such Compositions are usually distinguished, and by which alone, they can be effectually recommended to the respectful and dispassionate Attention of Society at large.

8. Your Despatch of the 1st of June, No. 41, tenders the Resignation of your Office, on the Ground "that you do not agree in Opinion with the Commissioners of Inquiry in Lower Canada," and that, "as regards their Policy, you have not an Idea in common with them," and because "their Policy has a democratic Character, to which you cannot justly conform." To these general Remarks you proceed to add Censures, of no ordinary Severity, of a particular Act of Lord Gosford's Administration, viz. the Promotion of M. Bédard. Respecting M. Bédard's Preferment, it may be sufficient to observe, that you are very imperfectly acquainted with the Circumstances of the Case, and with the Motives which influenced Lord Gosford's Conduct. On much more ample Information His Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve and confirm that Choice.

Your Remarks respecting the Reports of the Commissioners are, I must be permitted to think, premature, as His Majesty's Decision upon those Reports is not yet known. I shall not enter into any Explanation of the Opinions which I entertain in regard to the Questions discussed by the Canada Commissioners, nor can I advise His Majesty to accept your Resignation on the Ground on which it is thus placed.

In my Despatch which accompanied your Commission, I have attempted to lay down, with the utmost possible Precision, the Principles on which His Majesty expects and requires you to act. Those Instructions I see no Reason to depart from or to qualify. I trust that you will steadily adhere to them as the Rule and Guide of your Conduct, even when they may coincide with the Reports of which you have pronounced so unqualified a Condemnation. If, indeed, I were to understand your tendered Resignation as declaratory of any Purpose to administer the Government of Upper Canada in opposition to the Principles recorded in those Instructions, then, whatever Pain and Regret it

(41.) might

No. 10
Lord Glenelg,
to
Sir F. B. Head,
25th July 1836.