



Province of }  
Lower Canada. }

## GOSFORD.

His Excellency the Right Honorable ARCHIBALD, EARL OF GOSFORD,  
Baron Worlingham of Beccles, in the County of Suffolk, Captain General and Governor in  
Chief in and over the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, Vice Admiral of the same, and  
one of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, &c. &c. &c.

### A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS in certain Counties of the District of Montreal, disaffection to the Government of our Gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria, has unequivocally declared itself, and divers outrages upon the persons and properties of Her Majesty's loyal subjects have been recently perpetrated therein. And whereas prisoners arrested on charge of High Treason have been rescued from the hands of Justice, and the Troops of Her Majesty in the lawful discharge of their duty, while aiding the Civil Authorities, have been assailed and fired upon by bands of armed peasantry. And whereas it is notorious that the present blind and fatal excitement in that District, is to be attributed to the machinations of a few evil minded and designing men, who have imposed upon the credulity of an unsuspecting peasantry, and by plausible misrepresentation and wilful calumny, by practising upon their fears and inflaming their passions, by appealing to national distinctions, and exciting political prejudices, which it has been the unabated endeavour of the British Government to extinguish, have at length succeeded in implicating a part of the hitherto peaceable and loyal population in the first excesses of a reckless and hopeless revolt. As the Representative of our Most Gracious Sovereign, I now most solemnly address myself to the inhabitants of this Province, but more especially to the misguided and inconsiderate population on the River Richelieu in the District of Montreal. I address myself to your good sense and to your personal experience of the benefits you have received, and of the tranquillity you have so long enjoyed under the British Government. You possess the Religion, the Language, the Laws and Institutions guaranteed to you nearly seventy years since. You know not the burthen of taxes. The expense of your Military defence is defrayed by Great Britain. The prosperity and happiness which have hitherto pervaded this Province, proclaim honorably and undeniably the political wisdom which watches over your safety, encourages your commerce and fosters your rising industry. The spontaneous confidence of the British Parliament bestowed on you a Constitution. Your Representatives complained of grievances: their complaints were promptly and fully investigated; grievances which were prov-

River Richelieu in the District of Montreal. I address myself to your good sense and to your personal experience of the benefits you have received, and of the tranquillity you have so long enjoyed under the British Government. You possess the Religion, the Language, the Laws and Institutions guaranteed to you nearly seventy years since. You know not the burthen of taxes. The expense of your Military defence is defrayed by Great Britain. The prosperity and happiness which have hitherto pervaded this Province, proclaim honorably and undeniably the political wisdom which watches over your safety, encourages your commerce and fosters your rising industry. The spontaneous confidence of the British Parliament bestowed on you a Constitution. Your Representatives complained of grievances: their complaints were promptly and fully investigated; grievances which were proved to exist were removed at once, redress the most ample, but unavoidably gradual, was unreservedly promised, and up to this moment that promise has been scrupulously observed. But the demands of your leaders are insatiable, the language of reform has speciously concealed the designs of revolution. I have thus far deemed it my duty to explain the injustice and inadmissibility of the objects for which your leaders contend, and for the attainment of which they would wantonly sacrifice you and your families. The traitorous designs of these political agitators have been at length unmasked. I now therefore call upon those who have been thus far deluded, to listen to the language of reason, sincerity and truth. Listen to the exhortations of your respectable and trustworthy Clergy. Listen to the representations of those worthy and loyal proprietors, whose interests are identified with your own, and whose prosperity in common with yours, must ever be graduated and governed by the internal tranquillity of this Province. Return to that allegiance to your Sovereign which you have now for the first time violated, and to that obedience to the Law which you have hitherto invariably maintained. Spurn from you your insidious advisers. Reject with abhorrence their self-interested and treasonable counsels. Leave them to that retribution which inevitably awaits them. Retire to your Homes and to the Bosoms of your Families; rest assured that a powerful and merciful Government is more desirous to forget than to resent injuries, and that within that Sanctuary you will experience no molestation. And further, by and with the advice and consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council of and for the Province of Lower Canada, I, the said Archibald, Earl of Gosford, do hereby call upon all Her Majesty's loyal Subjects in this Province, to be prepared at all times to maintain against all Aggressors, the authority of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, and to counteract the Rebellious designs of the disaffected in this Province. The dearest rights and privileges of British Subjects, their Laws and Institutions, have been openly and audaciously assailed. They will remember that those sentiments of loyalty and honor which were the pride of their forefathers are the Inheritance of their Children; and in defending their allegiance to their Gracious Queen, and the connexion which has so long existed between this favored Colony and Great Britain, they will rush forward as one man to prove their gratitude for the blessings they enjoy, and their unswerving determination to maintain them unimpaired.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at the Castle of Saint Lewis, in the City of Quebec, the twenty-ninth day of November, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, and in the first year of Her Majesty's Reign.

*By His Excellency's Command,*

(Signed,)

**D. DALY,**

*Secy. of the Province.*