

The constitution enables Your Majesty to uphold an independent branch of the legislature by a judicious selection of the members chosen to compose it, and we venture, with all humility, to state to Your Majesty, that a branch so chosen is essential to maintain Your Royal prerogative, to maintain the connexions which happily subsist between this colony and the mother country, and to give security to a numerous class of Your Majesty's subjects of British origin, now numbering about 150,000 souls scattered over the province, whose interests cannot be adequately represented in the Assembly, seven-eighths of the members whereof are of French origin, and speak the French language.

It is under the circumstances above described that the Assembly have proposed to Your Majesty to abolish this House, and to substitute in its place a council, to be elected by proprietors of estates of 10*l*. annual value; a measure well conceived to further the desired object of obtaining a legislative body, in all respects the counterpart of the Assembly, inasmuch as that would virtually embrace the whole constituency of the country.

Having maturely considered, we trust without improper bias, the nature of the alteration in the constitution proposed by the Assembly; we entreat Your Majesty duly to weigh the opinion which we now humbly submit, as to the fatal consequence which may be expected to result from such a change. Its more immediate effects would be to render all offices in the colony elective; to unsettle the minds of Your Majesty's subjects of British origin, respecting the security of life and property which they now enjoy, to prevent their further increase through emigration, and to sever the ties which bind the colony to the parent State; while its ultimate result would bring into collision the people of Upper and Lower Canada, and drench the country with blood; for it is our solemn conviction, that the inhabitants of Upper Canada will never quietly permit the interposition of a French republic between that province and the ocean.

When the leaders of the Assembly in the year 1831 first openly declared themselves against the constitution, they found means of inducing a member of this House to proceed to England, for the sole avowed purpose of supporting the petitions of the Assembly to Your Majesty, and they have since, from year to year, procured the prolongation of his mission. We humbly submit that representations made by this gentleman to Your Majesty's Government, ought to be received with extreme caution, because the Legislative Council have never assented to his mission; have never had official communication of any instructions given to him, or of despatches received from him, and he has committed a gross breach of the constitutional rights of this House, by receiving a large annual salary from the Assembly, knowing the same to be without sanction of law, paid to him out of the public money, advanced upon the single votes of that House, for defraying its ordinary contingent expenses.

Under all these circumstances, the Legislative Council earnestly beseech Your Majesty, to take into your most serious consideration the present alarming posture of affairs in Your Majesty's once happy province of Lower Canada, to be graciously pleased to adopt such measures as in Your wisdom will tend to tranquillize the mind, to maintain the constitutional rights and liberties of all Your Majesty's subjects therein; and thus guarantee the permanence of the existing connexion between the colony and the parent State.

Signed by Order,

(signed) *J. Sewell*, Speaker.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Mr. Secretary *Stanley* to Lord *Alymer*;
dated Downing-street, 6 June 1833.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin, relative to the expulsion of Mr. Mondelet from the House of Assembly, and to the grounds on which you had declined to issue a new writ.

I have likewise to acknowledge your despatches, No. 30, of the 29th March last, reporting the rejection by the Legislative Council of the Supply Bill sent up by the House of Assembly; Nos. 29, of the 27th March, and 33, of the 5th April, transmitting Addresses to the King from both Houses of the Legislature, and your despatch, marked "separate," of the 31st March 1833, enclosing an Address to His Majesty from certain inhabitants of Montreal, respecting the alteration of the constitution of Lower Canada as established by 31 Geo. 3, c. 31.

I propose to refer to all these topics in a single despatch, because, though in themselves apparently unconnected with each other, they bear a relation unhappily too perceptible to those who have studied the political discussions which have so long distracted the councils of Lower Canada.

I am, in the first place, to signify to you my entire approbation of your Lordship's conduct in declining to affix your name to the new writ for the election of a Member for the county of Montreal, in the room of Mr. Mondelet, whose seat had been declared vacant by a vote of the House of Assembly. Were I disposed to qualify in any measure this approbation, it would be to express my regret that an extreme though not unnatural degree of caution, should have led you to acquaint the House that you had referred the matter to the consideration of the Secretary of State, and that, sanctioned by the opinions and advice of those whom you had very properly consulted, you should not at once have taken upon yourself to announce the decision which your knowledge of the British constitution had led you so correctly to form. It is unnecessary for me to comment upon the

No. 100, Nov. 29,
1832.

No. 105, Dec. 27,
1832.

No. 27, March 20,
1833.