

of Money levied on the Importations, drawn back by Smugglers. This will be found a very ineffectual mode of providing a Remedy for an Object of that Importance, and may have the most serious Consequences, by raising Questions of the most delicate, and to the Province, of the most interesting Nature.

In short, Sir, this Division appears to me dangerous in every point of View to the British Interest in America, and to the Safety, Tranquility, and Prosperity, of the Inhabitants of every part of the Province of Quebec.—It may, perhaps, have been alledged in favour of dividing the Province, that the distance which some of the Deputies of the Upper Districts will have to travel to meet those of the Lower Districts in Legislature would be inconvenient and expensive, but Sir, is the Convenience of Fifteen or Twenty Members of the Legislature an Object of such moment, that the Tranquility of the Whole of that extensive Country must be endangered to assure their Ease? Do not Caithness and the Orkneys send Members to Represent them in this Honourable House? And I will venture to assure this Honourable House, that it will not be more difficult to travel in the inhabited parts of that Country than it is from the Orkneys to London. I beg leave on this point to bring to the Recollection of this Honourable House, that the distance from Quebec to Niagara is about 500 miles, and that Niagara may be considered as the utmost extent, Westward, of the Cultivable part of the Province. For although there is a small settlement at Detroit, which is, and must be considered of great Importance as a Post to trade with the Indians, yet it must appear to this Honourable House, from its situation, it can never become of any great Importance as a settlement: the Falls of Niagara are an unsurmountable bar to the Transportation of such rude materials as the Produce of the Land. As the Farmers about Detroit therefore, will have only their own settlement for the Consumption of their Produce, such a confined market must greatly impede the Progress of settlement and cultivation for ages