

for the appointment of a committee to take the same into consideration, and to make inquiry into the causes of the present discontents among the Canadians, with a power to send for persons, papers, &c. The prevalence of these discontents was notorious, and Col. Caldwell repeated some very remarkable instances of them, and of some oppressions he himself had been a witness to. If the Chief-Justice had been disposed to foment disturbances and divisions, he would doubtless have supported this motion; whereas on the contrary he opposed it in the strongest manner he was able, particularly the appointment of such a committee, as he thought it could only serve to give sedition an opportunity of rendering the public discontents more general and more dangerous.

Yet could the Governor have been moved to communicate, as he was ordered, the royal instructions, and to listen to the advice of his whole Council, it would no doubt have produced the most salutary effects to the King's service, by convincing the people that their oppressions could not be ascribed to the King or his Ministers, and thereby restoring to his Majesty the hearts and affections of his subjects in that Province.

The Chief-Justice had endeavoured six months before, very respectfully to offer some private advice to this purpose, but it answered no other end than