

The documents were the occasion of a very angry discussion in both Houses ; and I beg leave to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying Addresses which I have received, respecting the several allusions in your Lordship's observations, which the two Houses have considered themselves called on to notice.

Under the circumstances of the case, and with reference to the petitions carried home by Mr. M'Kenzie, having been received by the House of Assembly last session, I have no doubt that your Lordship will approve of the course which I have pursued in giving publicity to your Lordship's despatch.

I have, &c.

(signed) J. Colborne.

2d February 1833.  
9th February 1833.

TO His Excellency Sir John Colborne, Knight, Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-governor of the Province of Upper Canada, and Major-general commanding His Majesty's Forces therein, &c. &c. &c.

May it please Your Excellency,

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Upper Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave to express our thanks to your Excellency for laying before us an original despatch, written to your excellency by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 8th of November last, containing his Lordship's observations, at great length, upon a variety of statements made to him by Mr. William L. M'Kenzie, an inhabitant of this town. Having perused this despatch, we comply with your Excellency's desire in returning it to your Excellency, taking it for granted that the only reason for laying it before the Legislative Council was the direction contained in the despatch that it should receive publicity.

The statements upon which these comments have been framed, have also been laid before us by your Excellency ; but without entering into any particular consideration of their contents, with which the Council had little desire to become acquainted, enough appears in the tenor of his Lordship's observations, to make it manifest that those statements have been made with a very unusual disregard of truth, and in a spirit of wanton and intemperate hostility to the legislative and executive authorities in this province. If sufficient internal evidence of this character did not present itself to His Majesty's Secretary of State, in all such parts of those documents as relate to the affairs of this colony, we must infer, from the observations of his Lordship, that it was abundantly displayed in the principles, motives and conduct ascribed to His Majesty's Ministers in England, upon which his Lordship has necessarily the means of forming a correct opinion.

We cannot say that it may not possibly give satisfaction to some persons in this province to observe the condescending and respectful manner in which representations of so peculiar a description, proceeding from an individual, have been received and replied to, notwithstanding it is evident that they were outrageously insulting to all the constituted authorities of this colony, and scarcely less so to the people at large, in imputing to them sentiments and feelings by which they never have been, and we are convinced never will be, actuated. It is not in the nature of things, however, that the Legislative Council, or that any portion of the people in this province, of sound hearts and understandings, having the truth under their view, can regard such statements, as compose Mr. M'Kenzie's voluminous correspondence with His Majesty's Secretary of State, in any other manner than with the most unqualified contempt ; a contempt which, upon every principle on which character is acquired or lost, we think it must be more conducive to the public interests and honour, and to all the ends of good government, to avow than to disclaim ; so far, therefore, as the despatch of His Majesty's Secretary of State is to be considered as a reply to those statements, or as a commentary upon information derived from the same source, we cannot regard it as calling for the serious attention of the Legislative Council ; but it is scarcely necessary to say, that in any other point of view, this expression of the sentiments of His Majesty's Government, upon several of the matters discussed by his Lordship, must be received by us with the greatest interest. Upon some of these matters it may become the duty of the Legislative Council to address themselves respectfully to their Gracious Sovereign, because they deeply concern the permanent interests of this province ;