

same, and that he, (and not the Executive Council) is constitutionally responsible, as well to the Sovereign as to the people of this Province, for the impartial and upright performance of the duties of his office—a responsibility essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of His Majesty's Subjects in Upper Canada, and which it is the imperative duty of their Representatives to maintain and enforce, and not to suffer that responsibility, so far as depends on them, to be weakened or destroyed, by transferring the whole or any portion of it to other parties; and that any attempt to transfer to the Executive Council this responsibility, and as a necessary consequence the power and patronage vested by law in the person administering the Government, is in derogation of the Constitutional Charter, and would be dangerous to the liberties of the people—injurious to the stability of our social and political Institutions—and utterly destructive of the ties which attach this Colony to the British Empire.

An elective Legislative Council would give to the people a double representation, and the balanced system of Government be destroyed.

Such an experiment would, in the opinion of the Committee, lead to a dissolution of our connection with the British Empire.

On the subject of the extension of the elective principle to the Legislative Council, your Committee have equally decided, and they trust well founded views. The union of the three Estates—Monarch, Aristocracy, and Democracy, in the Government, has been always considered the characteristic and most valuable feature of the British Constitution; and with a view of securing a free and well-balanced system of Government, with the Kingly power for its head, the intervention of a third estate, independent of the people, though possessing the same common interests with them, and of the Crown, though deriving rank from it, has been found productive of the happiest results; and so far from the creation of Legislative Councils nominated by the Crown being a new theory or experiment in Colonial Government, the Constitution of other Colonies, the date of which is long antecedent to that of our own, abundantly proves, alike, their existence

The late General Election decisive of public opinion, with respect to the Executive Council.

Opinion of the Committee on that subject.

His Majesty's Representative alone responsible to His Majesty and the people;