

clusively of British origin ; and when it is ascertained from statistical documents, emanating from the colony, that the population in the two Canadas are in the following proportions, —

Lower Canada.

French origin	-	390,000
British origin	-	210,000

600,000

Upper Canada.

375,000

of which, probably, at least 350,000 are of British extraction ; thus constituting a majority of 150,000 of British over French settlers, taking Canada as a whole ; and when I consider that this majority of 150,000 British settlers in the two Canadas (for in reference to a separation they cannot be taken apart), in addition to a great mass of the French Canadians, are favourable to a continuance, most anxious for the continuance, of the connection with Great Britain, — I am bound to affirm that the time for separation has not yet arrived. If, in 1763, when Lower Canada first became a British colony, — its people had then said, “ You have conquered us from France, but we wish not to be governed by you ; we wish to be independent ; ” what, in strict justice and right, ought to have been the answer of Great Britain ? “ We do not wish to govern you against your wishes ; but you occupy a position which, if seized by a force hostile to Great Britain, may afford great facilities for the annoyance of the United Colonies to the south of the St. Lawrence. If you could prove to us that you were strong enough to protect yourselves from foreign aggressors, and could really form a strong and permanent independent Government, — then, if in a body you demanded emancipation, we would grant it you.” But the French Canadians never dreamt of making such an application, nor were they in a condition to have had it granted, being only 60,000 at the time of our acquiring the colony, in 1763. Since that period other elements of consideration have grown up. It is no longer