

CANADIAN AFFAIRS

1827-1839

ONE SIDE OF THE QUESTION

The unanimity of the country upon the 92 resolutions was, however, by no means as represented ; for instance, in 1827, there had been petitions from the district of Quebec with 30,000 signatures ; while those in support of the 92 in 1834 were only 18,000. The signers of the 92 may be divided in three classes :

1st. The handful of ambitious men who, really understood Papineau's views, and were disposed to favor them in every possible way.

2d. Those who knew his views but were not determined to further them ; who, had they been aware they were doing so, indirectly would have opposed them. A class much more numerous than the former.

3d. Those who comprehended nothing of his real intents, and who, had they suspected them, would have done all in their power to counteract them. This class comprised the great bulk of the people.

The recall of Lord Aylmer followed the 92 resolutions, and the report of the House of Commons thereon.

Lord Aylmer's administration might have been beneficial to the country had he not been hampered in action according