

Is this what the objection means, and would say if it durst? If not, what means the objection against Government officers being pledged to support the Government? They must be so, or the Government cannot benefit the people as it should. If thwarted and insulted by its own servants, and all favour meant for the people intercepted or turned into gall by those servants, who would govern or be governed on such a system? It is the very evil against which the people have risen in their might, and demanded a change. The first step in this change is to bring public officers before the bar of public opinion, and test their claims to public confidence at the hustings. If a number sufficient to conduct the public business cannot command confidence there, they must give place to those who can, and thus the system will soon resolve itself into that practical working of the British Constitution which ensures the harmony of the Executive with the representatives of the people. But let not the latter take fright at the first appearance of this improved system. It is not a fiery comet, which from its "horrid hair shakes pestilence and death," but the rising of a happier day—the bow of promise that the deluge of misgovernment shall not again desolate the land. "*In this sign conquer.*"

We have now gone through the subjects which we proposed to consider at the beginning, and have seen that the general principles by which the Government is guided in its course merit the confidence and support of all who love their country, and that the administration of His Excellency the Governor-General is in accordance with those principles. We claim no abstract perfection for that Administration, being too well aware that error will intrude into all human affairs. But if in any point the Administration needs indulgence, the difficulties in its way must be considered—difficulties so great, that instead of complaining that so little has been done, we may rejoice that so much has been effected. And not only the difficulties in this country, but also those at home must be taken into account. It must be remembered

that Ministers are sustained by very small majorities, and therefore are unable to act at all times with the requisite vigour and firmness. Some persons here have spoken as if Ministers should have made a firm stand for measures suitable in every respect for Canada, even if they went so far as to swamp the House of Lords rather than pass a bill distasteful to the people of Canada. Such persons should consider that to take this stand would require a Minister to be supported by large majorities. He would be a rash man indeed who would take any such step with a majority of only eight or ten. Let every thing be judged fairly, with candour, a due allowance for difficulties at present insurmountable, a generous attachment to British institutions, and that spirit of yielding on minor matters, without which no union can be preserved; and then let the people of Canada say if they have not ample ground on which to support the Government in its liberal and patriotic course—ample ground on which all reasonable men may unite, each having gained what he most desired—ample ground on which to erect the temple of Concord, inscribing on its portal the following passage from the answer of the Governor-General to the Halifax Address: "It is the anxious desire of the Queen that her British North American subjects should be happy and prosperous; that they should enjoy that freedom which is the birthright of Britons, and bless the tie which binds them to her empire." That these prove not vain aspirations, they must be met in a corresponding spirit; and then who can predict the prosperity which awaits the country? Instead of hostile parties arrayed against each other, obstructing public business, and inflaming party animosity until it degenerates into private hate, we shall have the great body of the people united in promoting the commonweal, aiding the general prosperity, and rising with the advance of their country, until Canada, like her parent state, shall "flourish great and free," and see nothing to envy in the institutions or prosperity of any other people.