

of any responsible government, while their unfounded outcry is, that it is intentionally avoided.

Many probably give their support to this party under an honest belief that there is reluctance on my part to consult the Executive Council. This is entirely an error. With any council that seeks the good of the country, and does not strive to degrade the office of governor to the condition of a mere party tool, it is my inclination, as well as my duty and my practice, to consult on all subjects. No governor could dream of administering the government of this province, without constant consultation with his council.

Every governor must be sensible of the advantage that he would derive from the aid, advice, and information of councillors and heads of departments, in whom he can place confidence. But that is not the question at issue. If it were, or if it had been, the country would not have been troubled with the present dispute. The demand of the party now obstructing Her Majesty's government is, that the Governor, who is responsible to his Sovereign and the British nation for the welfare of Canada, is with respect to the government of this country to be a nonentity, or in other words to be the subservient tool of any party that may acquire a temporary ascendancy. To this I could not and never can submit. This was the meaning of the stipulations demanded of me, and which my duty to the crown rendered compliance with impossible.

I shall ever retain, gentlemen, a grateful sense of your staunch support and kind wishes, and it will be the greatest happiness that I can enjoy during the remainder of my mortal life, if your prayer for my success in promoting concord and prosperity in this important province, be heard with favour at the throne of Heaven.

ANSWER

*To the Address of the Gentry, Magistrates, Merchants and other
Inhabitants of Kingston.*

Accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks for the generous motives which have induced you to come forward in the present state of affairs to assure me of your confidence and support.

Above all, I prize those sentiments of loyalty to our gracious Sovereign, and attachment to the mother country, which you evince, and which form the only sure basis on