quest, fifteen years previous. Roman Catholic disabilities as to tenure of office were removed. The limits of the province were largely extended. In short by this bill, the whole fabric of English dominancy in the province of Quebec was for ever, at one fell blow, annihilated, leaving but a British protectorate as a result of the heroic conquests of Wolfe and Amherst, to meet the groaning expense of which the foundation of England's public debt was largely laid.

Such a bill as this, it would be natural to infer, would have made the hearts of his Canadian new subjects, as they were called, rejoice. But not so; the peasantry in whose name the bill had been procured and whom it was specially intended to benefit, mourned in sackcloth and ashes the moment information as to its provisions reached them. " Are we reverting to the old bygone days of French rule, when we were as slaves in the land, subject to every whim and order of our seigniors and priests ?" asked they of each other? "If so, we repudiate the action of these sixty-five self-termod representatives and will not accept the bill. We have been quite satisfied with British institutions and treatment during the past fifteen years, and wish for no change. We have had liberty of action, and have materially benefitted by the liberality in purchase of our products. We have supported our priests and church voluntarily and have received politeness which we were unaccustomed to, and much better service in consequence."

These sentiments found expression in a petition of remonstrance forwarded by the British residents to the king and Parliament asking for the repeal of the bill: "And whereas an Act of Parliament has lately passed, intituled, an Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the province of Quebec, which is said to have been passed upon the principles of humanity and justice, and at the pressing instance and request of the new subjects, signified to His Majesty by an humble petition setting forth their dislike to the British laws and form