

making the Place of Councillor hereditary; as it may in a few Years greatly embarrass Government, and be the means of degrading the Aristocratic Branch of the Legislature, from their Poverty or their Numbers, in the Eyes of the Public, which I submit as an object of very serious consideration to this Honourable House.

I come now, Sir, to say a few Words on the manner in which this Bill provides for the Establishment of a House of Assembly or Representatives of the People. The number of Representatives who are to compose this Branch of the Legislature for Lower Canada, is proposed to be not fewer than Thirty.—Sir, in all the free States of Antiquity it was a general Rule that every free Citizen who chose to attend had a Right to give his Vote or Voice on every public Question, either for making Laws or otherwise. It is to Modern Times that we are indebted for that noble invention by which a Large, Populous, and extensive Kingdom may be Governed on Principles which effectually secure the Liberty and Independence of the People; while the Government at the same Time retains that Uniformity, Wisdom, and Dignity, which ought to characterize a great and free People. Every Member of this Honourable House must have anticipated what I mean; for the Representation of the People in the Legislature by their Deputies, is perhaps the greatest stretch of Political Wisdom which the World has yet witnessed.

By this happy Institution the People have the Opportunity, at particular Periods, of chusing from among themselves those of their Fellow Subject or Citizens who are most remarkable for their Wisdom, Abilities, Honour, and Independence; and of deputing them to meet the Governors of the Kingdom, to revise the Old, and enact New Laws, to assist in directing the Operations of Government, and to examine into the Conduct of the Public Servants. While the People, satisfied that their Deputy has every inducement to Act with Propriety, from the distinguished Honour conferred on him by their Choice and the great Trust reposed in him, know likewise, that
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