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present occasion—to speak, but not to vote. Mr. Gourlay hereupon came forward, and addressing himself to the chair, expressed his great satisfaction at seeing the measures which he had had the happiness to suggest to the public of Upper Canada, so far matured, in the meeting of this Convention. He said that these measures would have had the most complete success, but for unforeseen and unexpected influences; that it was obvious, from the beginning, that many men, accustomed to draw profit from corruption, or enjoyment from the exercise of arbitrary power, would oppose measures tending to refresh the body-politic, and restrain the licentiousness of ill-regulated authority; but it could not have been supposed, that there would have appeared men so base as to injure a good and great public cause, from mere wanton malevolence, or to gratify private pique and revenge; far less, that any of those men who represented the people in Parliament, would take arms against measures, not only pure, but having in view the very ends which the Assembly had repeatedly strove to attain. That such had been the case, was, however, unfortunately too true; and the machinations of such parties had held back that frank and confiding support to the cause, which certainly would have prevailed throughout, from the unbiassed feelings of the people. Mr. G. said, that, from his knowledge of the public mind, there was only required a little time to get over every difficulty raised by lying reports and evil influences—that he had positive information, that even already, many people who had been at first staggered under ignorance of the truth, and the novelty of proposed measures, were fast adopting more liberal sentiments, and heartily wishing us well, though they had lost the opportunity of choosing representatives to speak for them on this occasion: that it would be of infinite consequence to give time for reflection; and, as there was but one great interest in the country, so there might be the most harmonious effort possible made to promote it. Under circumstances, then, he would propose a change of measures: he would propose, instead of sending home a Commission directly, to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, that a Deputation should wait on the Governor as soon as arrived, or, should proceed to meet him at Quebec: that this Deputation should present two petitions—one to the Prince, with a request, that he, (the Governor,) should immediately send home the same to be presented at the first levee: that another petition should be presented to himself, praying that he would immediately dissolve the present Parliament, and issue writs for a new election—that he would meet the new Parliament with all possible dispatch, and recommend, as its first great object, (after getting the annual supply voted,) to proceed to an inquiry into the state of the province, and have a Commission appointed to go home with the result, in time to have the same laid before the Imperial Parliament, in the early part of next session. Mr. G. said that, in his address of the 2nd of April, he had asserted that there was little to be expected from change of representatives or Governors. He would now qualify that assertion. The appointment of the Duke of Richmond to be Governor-in-chief of the Canadas, was an auspicious event. The Duke of Richmond was a rare character—one who had proved that Royalty itself could not make him stoop to indignity, and one who had nobly supported the rights of the people of England.

He had long ago maintained, that every man who paid taxes should have a vote in Parliamentary election, and his opinion had been proudly quoted by the lovers of rational reform, upon every occasion since. In this country, we had the fullest privileges as to the choice of representatives—the fullest security that taxation never could be made oppressive to the community. We had nothing to expect from the Duke of Richmond as to this; but his former conduct and declared opinions, were quite cheering to our hopes, of his heartily joining in every effort for the public good; and Sir Peregrine Maitland, with such an example, and with such an adviser, we might be well assured, will be forward in performing honorably and well, the high and important duties entrusted to him. As to a change of representatives, there was, at this time, considerable hope. Men's minds were now roused to the full importance of having respectable characters in Assembly: they had seen the evil consequences from too much indifference as to this; and, in fact, the Parliamentary character had fallen so low, that respectable men had, for years, declined coming forward, as candidates. Now, he was convinced that men of solid worth and judgment would offer themselves, and that while all were alive to public interests, every voter would seriously think of the character he supported. There were now in Assembly, several men quite a disgrace to their situation. These men, he thought, would certainly not now be returned; and such as were still in favor with their constituents, from uprightness of intention, (and there was a considerable proportion that he believed to be worthy, honest men, such as perhaps could not be excelled,) that he was sure these men would resume their duties, with increased energy and determination, to recover to the country that character and credit, which their remissness had unhappily tended to degrade and dissipate."

These measures requiring time for reflection, it was moved by Mr. Washburn, and carried, that this meeting do adjourn till to-morrow, at 9 o'clock.

York, Tuesday, 7th July, 1813.

This day the Convention being met, and Richard Bensley, Esq. in the chair—Mr. Washburn rose, and after making some remarks on the proposals yesterday brought forward, submitted the following Resolutions for consideration—viz:

*Resolved, 1st.* That whilst this Convention holds it one of the most sacred rights of British subjects, at all times, directly to petition the throne of their Sovereign, relative to their grievances; yet, nevertheless, under the present peculiar existing circumstances of this country, the members of this Convention, as well out of respect to that honorable body, the Commons House of Assembly of Upper Canada, as for other causes, deem it their most indispensable duty, on this important occasion, to recommend, in the strongest terms, to their fellow subjects resident in this province, a spirited, formal and respectful application to that honorable House, for an inquiry into the state of the province.

*2nd.* That John Clark, Cyrus Sumner and Roderick Drake, Esqrs. be a permanent Committee, for the management of the affairs of this Convention, and that they, as soon as may be practicable, prepare a respectful Petition, praying for inquiry, and expressive of grievances, (for the immediate sanction of this Convention,) to be by them circula-