

that through you, which is indeed the only channel of communication that I have with them, the people may be distinctly informed of the motives by which I am actuated. Whatever might be my personal wishes, or however strong might be my desire, that the public business suffer no interruption, I feel that, on this occasion, nothing is left to my discretion; it has been rendered impossible for me to act otherwise than in the way I am proposing. The House of Assembly has taken upon themselves, without the participation of the other branches of the Legislature, to pass a vote, that a Judge of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench, cannot sit nor vote, in their House. However I might set aside the personal feelings which would not be unnatural in me, as to the mode in which this transaction has been conducted towards myself, there is another, and infinitely higher consideration, arises out of it, which I must not overlook. It is impossible for me to consider what has been done in any other light than as a direct violation of an act of the Imperial Parliament;—of that Parliament which conferred on you the constitution, to which you profess to owe your present prosperity; nor can I do otherwise, than consider the House of Assembly as having, unconstitutionally, disfranchised a large portion of His Majesty's subjects, and rendered ineligible, by an authority which they do not possess, another not inconsiderable class of the community. Such an assumption, I should, at any rate, feel myself bound by every tie of duty to oppose; but, in consequence of the expulsion of the member for the County of Quebec, a vacancy in the representation for that county has been declared, and it would be necessary that a new writ should issue for the election of another member. That writ would have to be signed

by me. Gentlemen, I cannot, dare not, render myself a partaker in a violation of an Act of the Imperial Parliament; and I know no other way by which I can avoid becoming so but that which I am pursuing."—March 1st. The Governor-General's proclamation dissolving the sixth Provincial Parliament of Lower Canada was issued.—March 7th. An address signed by 524 persons from the inhabitants of the city of Quebec was presented to Governor-General Sir J. H. Craig, assuring His Excellency of their attachment to His Majesty's Government and of their disapproval of the action of the Legislative Assembly which had led to the recent dissolution of Parliament. His Excellency made a suitable reply, and expressed his great gratification that his conduct had met with the approval of so large a number of the citizens of Quebec. Similar addresses were presented to the Governor-General by the inhabitants of Montreal (signed by 887 persons), William Henry (Sorel), and Terrebonne.—March 21st. A proclamation was issued by Sir J. H. Craig, defending at great length his conduct in connection with the recent dissolution of Parliament.—August 6th. His Excellency the Right Honorable Francis James Jackson, His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, arrived at Montreal, accompanied by Mrs. Jackson and his infant son. Mr. Jackson was entertained by the citizens of Montreal at a public dinner on the 9th, at which all the leading citizens, the officers of the garrison, and a number of strangers were present. On leaving Montreal, he proceeded to Quebec in a birch canoe manned by twelve Canadians. At Quebec he was also invited to a public dinner, at which His Excellency the Governor-General was present. Mr. Jackson left Quebec on the 18th, on his way to England *via*