

ideas were, that the laws in Canada might be blended with those of England, so as to form a system perfectly adapted to the wants of the Canadians, and also to the principles of the policy of this country. I would have left the Canadians all their laws that in any degree concerned the transfer, possession, settlement, or mortgage of landed property. I would have secured them their religious toleration and security; but I proposed to give them the criminal law of England, and the civil law as far as it concerned the rights of moveable property, the modes of trial, &c. This was a mixture which I imagined would answer the purposes that were wanting.

Mr. Mackworth. Is Mr. Hey acquainted with the laws of Canada, by which, in matters of property, he must conduct himself in case this Bill passes.

Mr. Hey. Not as a system; only in the cases which have come before me from the Court of Common Pleas.

Mr. Baker. If this Bill passes, will there be any legal remedy for a man's being arbitrarily imprisoned?

Mr. Hey. That must depend very much on the constitution which his Majesty may be pleased to give to his courts of justice, which he is enabled to erect by this bill. But if, as a Chief Justice, I knew of a man's imprisonment, I should be much induced, if I found no law for the purpose, to make one, to have the prisoner brought before me, that the cause of his commitment might be known.

June 3. The House in Committee on the Quebec Bill. Monsieur De Lotbiniere called in.

Mr. T. Townshend. Are you of Canada?

De Lotbiniere. I am.

Mr. T. Townshend. Of the corps of nobility?

De Lotbiniere. Yes.

Mr. T. Townshend. Do you know if the Canadians are desirous of having an Assembly to represent them in the government of the province?

De Lotbiniere. They are very desirous of it.

Mr. T. Townshend. Why then have they not made representations to that purpose?

De Lotbiniere. Because they understand, that if they were gratified with an Assembly, they would in consequence have the expences of the Government to support, which in the present state of the province would be much more than they can support.

Lord North. Did M. De Lotbiniere ever hear any material objections to the establishment of a Legislative Council?

De Lotbiniere. I never heard it particularly debated, nor any objections.

Mr. T. Townshend. Does he think the Canadians are not desirous of a more free government than a Governor with a Council, the members of which are appointed, removed, and suspended by him?

De Lotbiniere. They would certainly desire a freer Government.

Lord Beauchamp. But if some of the Noblesse were admitted into that Council, would they not then be well satisfied?

De Lotbiniere. They might then be satisfied.

Lord North. Would the Noblesse be desirous of an Assembly which