

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

PETITION of the HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY of UPPER CANADA.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Upper Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty with our renewed assurances of loyalty and attachment to Your Majesty's person and Government.

It is with pain we acknowledge how seldom it is we have to address Your Majesty in the unmingled language of gratitude and thankfulness, and we have noticed the difficulties, at this distance from Your Majesty's immediate care, which attend the fulfilment of the most benevolent intentions.

We have now to pray Your Majesty's patient and impartial attention to the history of our complaint, against a sudden, abrupt, and most ungracious denial by his Excellency, of those indispensable constitutional principles in our local government, the just preservation of which is, above all things, calculated to endear Your Majesty to Your Canadian people, and to strengthen the bond of union between this loyal and valuable portion of Your empire and the parent state.

The Report of a Select Committee of Your Majesty's faithful Canadian Commons, which has, after mature consideration, been adopted by this House, (and accompanies this Address,) will amply inform Your Majesty upon all particulars; and we regret it should necessarily contain disclosures to Your Majesty equally injurious to the interests and confidence of the people, and to the character of the royal station in this province. Under feelings of solicitude lest Your Majesty's royal ear should be prepossessed against us by those who have easier and secret access to Your Majesty and Your Majesty's Ministers, we have prayed the aid of Your Majesty's Imperial House of Commons, as will appear from the accompanying copy of our Memorial, in the hope that they will aid Your Majesty in extending to us speedy and effectual measures for the redress of our wrongs, and for the maintenance of the honour and dignity of the Crown.

Commons House of Assembly, }
18 April 1836.

(signed) Marshall S. Bidwell,
Speaker.

PETITION of the HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY of UPPER CANADA.

To the Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

May it please Your Honourable House,

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Upper Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled, after unavailing struggles for a series of years to obtain such an administration of our local affairs as would secure to the people of this province, possessing "the very image and transcript of the British Constitution," the blessings of good government, are at length driven to appeal to the wisdom, justice, and magnanimity of your Honourable House, in the hope that your powerful intercession with His Majesty may yet redeem us from a condition every day becoming more ruinous and alarming. We are not unacquainted with the overwhelming influence of station and weight of authority which will be brought to bear against our exertions to procure redress; and without the interposition of your Honourable House we entertain a fear, grounded on the experience of the past, that His Majesty's ear will be so abused by secret despatches and personal detractions as almost to set at defiance the best directed intentions of His Majesty to arrive at the truth. And we desire to add, as a further difficulty, an inveterate disposition to adhere to what is called the Colonial System, under which our present condition has been produced, instead of accommodating it, as both wisdom and justice require, to the changing state and increasing wealth and population of the country.

In answer to the Address of this House to His most gracious Majesty, in the late Session, upon the subject of our grievances, we received as our new Lieutenant-Governor, his present Excellency, Sir Francis Bond Head, who by message communicated to this House the instructions he had received from His Majesty's Government for his guidance. But these instructions leave us under the same unsatisfactory and injurious system that has heretofore prevailed; and we practically feel that the institutions of the country are so directed, their operations so abridged, and public functionaries so protected in misgovernment by their distance from their superiors, as to render illusive and abortive the most promising schemes framed in England for our amelioration. Upon the arrival of Sir Francis Bond Head to represent His most gracious Majesty among the constitutional authorities of the province we were disposed to entertain the happiest expectations, and when his Excellency from

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