

and informations were necessarily nothing else than those of the few Scotch traders with whom they were connected; but proceed to explain that, although Mr. Ellice, the only member of parliament in those firms, is an opposition-member, the other partners in them, (all Scotchmen,) are leading, loyal, men in the city of London, and have constant intercourse, and considerable weight, with ministers. Now it was previously privately communicated to, I believe, Lord Bathurst first, and by him to his colleagues, that such a project would be proposed in Parliament, and that it was strongly recommendable by the increased power, patronage, and command of funds it would throw into the hands of the crown, by setting at rest the question of the civil-list, and deciding it in favour of the views of government.— Upon this being shewn to be the case, ministers, rather eagerly, said they would support it, if brought in; and Mr. Ellice, who is otherwise a strong advocate, for the people's rights, and an enemy of whatever bears against them, was blinded by the advantages which would accrue to his Scotch friends, both on this and on that side of the water, and consented to be the introducer and advocate of the measure. It was therefore a measure in Lord Londonderry's words, "in which the government had no concern," that is, in its projection or introduction; but as, in addition to the personal motives weighing with them as being calculated to increase the power and patronage of administration, to an incalculable and indeed unconstitutional extent, very gross misrepresentations were added, that it was an object highly desired by all the people of Canada, and they were, upon the whole, led to sanction it by their support; so the assertion that ministers *proposed* it to parliament, may be so far defended, inasmuch as, by their subsequent approbation of it, when it came before them, they may be said to have adopted it as their own.

But to dissect those parts of Mr. Robinson's letter, on which stress has been laid, as shewing that ministers were actually the proposers of the bill. He says that the under-secretary of state declared that "it originated entirely with His Majesty's government, and was not at the instance of either province," and this was in answer to the suggestion that it was a measure urged by Upper Canada, thro' its agent, in opposition to the interests and wishes of Lower Canada. What was this but stating the fact, that it was applied for by neither of the provinces? no one here ever said it was; it was only a few interested, partial, domineering, Scotchmen who applied for it; and the statement of its having originated with government, was nothing more than that ministers had adopted and sanctioned the project of the state quacks, who have endeavoured to undermine our constitution. But Mr. Robinson further says, he has no doubt "as to the present determination of ministers to pass the bill during