

No. 1.
 Lord Glenelg
 to
 Sir F. B. Head,
 5th Dec. 1835.

by impairing general Confidence in the public Credit, would weaken the Foundations on which all proprietary Rights must ultimately repose.

The King confidently relies on his faithful Subjects of Upper Canada that they will not reduce His Majesty to the distressing Alternative of either abandoning the just Interests of any of his Servants, or opposing himself to Measures having for their Object the Reduction of public Expenditure.

4. Next in the Order of Complaints is that which relates to the Amount of the Pension List. On this, as on the Subject which I have last noticed, I conceive that I shall better discharge my Duty by attempting to provide against any future Abuse than by engaging in a minute Retrospect of any which may have already occurred. I will not even pause on the Comparison, not perhaps very accurately or necessarily instituted, between the Conduct of the Central Government of the United States of America, and that which has been pursued in one of the Provinces of the British Empire, respecting the Remuneration of Officers for past Services. Such Pensions as have already been charged upon the Revenues which were at the Disposal of the Crown constitute a Debt to the Payment of which His Majesty's Honour is pledged, nor need I state that there is no Consideration so powerful as to induce the King to assent to the Violation of any Engagement lawfully and advisedly entered into by Himself or by any of His Royal Predecessors.

On the other hand, His Majesty is content that the most effectual Security should be taken against any improvident Increase of the Pension List by any future Grants, and is willing that a Limit should be fixed by Law to any Charge which may hereafter be imposed upon the provincial Revenues on this Account.

I do not anticipate that the Assembly of Upper Canada would wish to withhold from the King the Means of rewarding faithful and zealous public Services, or would think it desirable that no Provision shall ever be made by His Majesty to solace the declining Years of those who have consumed in laborious public Duties in the Colony the larger Portion of their Lives.

You will therefore assent to any Law which may be tendered for your Acceptance, of which the Object shall be to regulate, on a just and reasonable Scale, the Amount of the future Pension List of Upper Canada, and to prescribe the Principles upon which any Pensions shall be granted.

5. I proceed to the Subject of the Provision made for Ecclesiastical Establishments, and for the Maintenance of the Teachers of Religion of various Denominations.

On this Head the House of Assembly maintain Opinions from which, in their Address to His Majesty of the 13th April, the Legislative Council have recorded their most entire and earnest Dissent. The Report states, that "the House of Assembly in several successive Parliaments has expressed its entire Disapprobation of the Conduct of the Government in attempting to uphold particular Religious Sects by Money Grants, and in the 10th and 11th Parliaments has declared, that it recognizes no particular Denomination as established in Upper Canada, with exclusive Claims, Powers, or Privileges."

It appears that the Four Religious Communities whose Funds are aided by Grants from the Hereditary and Territorial Revenue are those of the Churches of England, and Scotland, and Rome, and of the Wesleyan Methodist Society; the last being in Two Divisions, which respectively take the distinct Appellation of the "Canadian" and the "British."

In the last Session of the Provincial Parliament a Bill was passed by the Assembly, the Object of which was to enable certain Commissioners to sell the Lands which, under the Constitutional Act of 1791, had been appropriated in Upper Canada to the Maintenance of a Protestant Clergy, and to pay over the Proceeds to the Receiver General, to be disposed of, under the future Direction of the Legislature, for the Promotion of Education, and for no other Purpose whatever.

This Bill was rejected by the Legislative Council on the Grounds noticed in the Address from that Body to His Majesty, and in a Report from a Select Committee appointed by them to take the Bill into Consideration, which Report is enclosed in Sir John Colborne's Despatch of the 20th May, No. 20.

Your Predecessor and the Council agree in the Opinion, that it is vain to expect the Concurrence of the Two Branches of the local Legislature in any Adjustment of this Question, and they therefore invoke the Interposition of
 Parliament;