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shall appear requisite, for furthering the good cause.

The thanks of the meeting were then unanimously voted to David Secord, Esquire, for his public spirit in coming forward, on this occasion, and liberally fulfilling the duties of the chair.

DAVID SECORD, *Chairman*.
A true copy. JOHN ROSS, *Clerk*.

TO THE PUBLIC.

It having been stated to me by some of my friends, that the public mind was impressed with the idea of my having participated in, and sanctioned, the recent improper and unwarrantable publications of Mr. Robert Gourlay, I conceive it a duty which I owe to the Government, to the province, and to myself, to declare, that, beyond publishing a statistical report of this province, he had neither my approbation nor my countenance.

In making this declaration, I trust that the tenor of my life justifies my asserting, that factious discontent never originated in my breast. Having said this much, in vindication of my own sentiments, I shall, in order to prevent error in, and rescue from distress the heedless proselytes of Mr. Gourlay's "one thing needful"—viz: a radical change of system in the government of Upper Canada," transcribe for their information, an extract from the common law of the British empire, which bears in the point of unlawful meetings or conventions, viz:

"The constitution of Great Britain having placed the representation of the nation, and the expression of the national will, in the Parliament, no other meeting or convention, even of every individual in the kingdom, would be a competent organ to express that will; and meetings of such a nature, tending merely to sedition, and to delude the people into an imaginary assertion of rights, which they had before delegated to their representatives in Parliament, could only tend to introduce anarchy and confusion, and to overturn every settled principle of government."

An act of Parliament was passed in Ireland, in the year 1793, to prevent any such meetings or conventions; and a few ignorant individuals, who, in the same year, had dared to assemble under that title in Scotland, were quickly dispersed, and their leaders convicted of seditious practices; for which they were sentenced to transportation.

I shall conclude with recommending to

all, to weigh well how they attend to visionary enthusiasts. THOMAS CLARK.
Niagara, April 18, 1818.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

IN consequence of a handbill having this day appeared, signed by the Honorable THOMAS CLARK, of the Legislative Council, in which an attempt is made to stigmatize the principles adopted by the Niagara meeting, the committee, appointed by that meeting, recommend the people of other townships, (where any *doubt* may exist, in consequence of Mr. Clark's handbill,) to postpone the election of their representatives, until a future day of meeting is advertised.

Great as the necessity is, for an instant appeal being made to the Supreme Government, regarding the state of Upper Canada, the committee would by no means press any measure until its legality is proved, and its propriety fairly established in the public mind. They pledge themselves to shew, in a few days, that they are not only right in what they have done, but that the Honorable Thomas Clark is grossly mistaken.

(Signed for the Committee.)

ROBERT HAMILTON.

Niagara, April 18, 1818.

Till there is time for further proof, the following will testify the strange inconsistency of Mr. Clark:

To Clerk of Township Meeting, 13th April, 1818, Niagara.

Queenston, 13th April, 1818.

SIR—You will herewith receive two dollars—one of which is the subscription of the Hon. Thomas Clark, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of carrying a petition to the Prince Regent, relative to the situation of this province; the other dollar for the same purpose, from your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

W. G. HEPBURN.

We certify, that we saw Mr. Clark give the dollar above mentioned, to Mr. Hepburne, for the purpose above also specified.

(Signed)

THOS. DICKSON.

JAMES KERBY.

To the worthy Inhabitants of the District of Niagara.

Niagara, April 21st, 1818.

GENTLEMEN—The above placards have already spoken for themselves. It is now my duty not only to defend my character as an individual, but to maintain the grand con-