

dered their inhabitants from enjoying the two most precious rights of British subjects, namely that of participating in the framing of the laws by which they are to be governed, and in the most convenient means of raising and of appropriating the necessary subsidies has, with a truly parental solicitude contrived, to redress that grievance by granting us a *Provincial Legislature*, on a basis as far as possible assimilated to that of the imperial one. On an attentive perusal of the act that constitutes that Legislature, it will appear, that *no more* than these two objects were intended.

We never find the word *Parliament* in the charter. Not only is it carefully avoided, but even we perceive in the wording of it, the most scrupulous attention never to mention the three branches together. Indeed it would appear extraordinary that, whilst a Parliament had already been immersed in that of England, and the intention was to reunite that of Ireland to the Imperial one, such contradiction could have been in contemplation; as substituting new rival bodies to coeval ones. By what authority the word *Parliament* has been inserted in the proclamations we do not know, but chance has not long ago put into our hands a Quebec Gazette, of 1792 containing such proclamation which was expressed as the Charter directs and did not mention that word.

The substitution of words and especially of technical words, to others is extremely dangerous. It has been very properly asserted that there were no such thing as Synonymies, and the least modification of the primitive idea may lead to consequences of the greatest importance. To the word *Parliament* when applied to the imperial one, we attach an idea of a kind of political omnipotence as Blackstone expresses it. It is the supreme National Council, in which is centered the substance of the whole national power and energy. It is the sole Agent that gives life and motion to the whole Empire. By giving therefore that same name to any other Corporated Body, it is probable that it will hereafter lay claim to the full participation in, and enjoyment of the same power and prerogatives, unless the extent of these powers and prerogatives, be positively circumscribed and defined by the act that constitutes it.

The Act that created our Legislature, has circumscribed and defined the powers and prerogatives necessary for the efficacy of a Provincial Legislature, but has certainly neither done it nor intended to do it for a Provincial Parliament.

The most efficacious and it may be said the sole remedy in our present situation would be, applying to the creator of an anomaly become such by the substitution of one word to another, that it might graciously be pleased either to sanction absolutely that *substituted word* or to confine the Creature within the limits prescribed by the act of its creation.