No. 16.

Lord Glenelg

to Sir F. B. Head,

20th Aug. 1836. Enclosures.

My Lord, Trinity Coart, Charing Cross, 20th June, 1836. Although not the Agent for the Petition from the House of Assembly of Upper Canada lately presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Hume, I take the Liberty of most respectfully requesting Permission to state fully to your Lordship personally the Particulars of the late political Transactions in that Province, as far as I have myself been connected with them, and the Principles by which I was governed in adopting the Course which I felt it my Duty to take on that Occasion; and also of laying before your Lordship fully and frankly my View of the present State of the Province, with reference to the great Question now at issue between the Lieutenant Governor and the House of Assembly; and respectfully submitting what appears to me to be the only possible Means of preserving the Connexion with the Mother Country, which, permit me most solemnly to assure your Lordship, I am most sincerely anxious to perpetuate.

I would take the Liberty of calling your Lordship's Attention to the Two following Facts, already before your Lordship in the Documents transmitted from Upper Canada; first that it was at the earnest Solicitation of the Lieutenant Governor himself, after a full and frank Explanation of my Views and Principles, that I was most reluctantly induced to accept a Seat in the late Executive Council, and that I was afterwards compelled to resign the Place thus pressed upon me by having been called upon by His Excellency to abandon those Principles or retire from his Confidence; and, secondly, that for joining, together with my Colleagues, in a respectful and confidential Representation to His Excellency, recommending what His Excellency, previous to soliciting me to take Office, knew me to consider absolutely necessary to the Success of his Government, I and my late Colleagues, most of them Servants of the Crown of long standing, have been denounced by His Excellency in his Speech from the Throne as "having officially combined together in an "unprecedented Endeavour to assume" what His Excellency considers his

Responsibility.

I feel assured that when your Lordship calls these Circumstances to mind, and, above all, considers that "the present," to use the Terms of your Lordship's Despatch to Sir F. Head, "is an Era of more Difficulty and Importance "than any which has hitherto occurred in the History of that Part of His Ma-" jesty's Dominions," and that it is at least possible that your Lordship may be better able to come to a satisfactory Conclusion upon the Subject after having it explained by One who was considered by the Lieutenant Governor himself as capable of being, in some degree at least, useful to His Majesty's Government in the Administration of the Affairs of the Province, and who, moreover, was himself in part an Actor in the very Affairs upon which your Lordship is called upon to decide, your Lordship cannot justly consider as unreasonable the Request which I now make for the Honour of personally communicating with you on a Subject so important to myself personally, and to the best Interests of my native Province.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Lord Glenelg. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT BALDWIN.

Downing Street, 28th June 1836. I am directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 20th Instant, transmitted to him by Mr. Hume, requesting that his Lordship would afford you an Opportunity of stating to him personally the Particulars of the late political Transactions in the Province of Upper Canada, in so far as you have been connected with them. In reply Lord Glenelg desires to observe, that he is solicitous at all Times to receive the fullest Information from every Quarter relating to the Interests of the British Colonies, and at the present Time more especially, relating to Upper Canada, and the Events which have recently taken place in that Province. His Lordship, however, while he accepts with Thankfulness your Offer to make some Communications to him on that Subject, is yet inclined to think that, under existing Circumstances, it would be more advisable that such Communications should be made in Writing than (41.)