

IMPORTANT.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

RELATIVE TO THE LATE

CHANGES IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

To His Excellency, SIR FRANCIS BOND HEAD,
K. C. H. &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Upper Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to inform Your Excellency, that this House, considering the appointment of a responsible Executive Council to advise Your Excellency on the affairs of the Province, to be one of the most happy and wise features in the Constitution, and essential to the form of our Government, and one of the strongest securities for a just and equitable administration, and eminently calculated to ensure the full enjoyment of our civil and religious rights and privileges, has lately learned, with no small degree of surprise and anxiety, that the Executive Council so recently formed for the purpose above stated, (as we presume,) consisting of six members, did, on Saturday the 12th instant, unanimously tender to Your Excellency their resignations, and that Your Excellency was pleased to accept the same; and humbly to request Your Excellency to inform this House, without delay, whether such are the facts, and also to communicate to this House full information relative to the cause of disagreement between Your Excellency and your said late Executive Council, as far as lies in Your Excellency's power to make known; as also to furnish this House with copies of all communications

between Your Excellency and your said late Council, or any of them, on the subject of such disagreement and subsequent tender of resignation.

(Signed) M. S. BIDWELL, *Speaker.*
Commons' House of Assembly, }
14th March, 1836. }

HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

GENTLEMEN,—Nothing can appear more reasonable to my mind, than the surprise and anxiety which the House of Assembly express to me at the intelligence they have received of the sudden resignation of the six members of the Executive Council; for with both these feelings I was myself deeply impressed, when, firmly relying on the advice, assistance, and cordial coöperation of my Council, I unexpectedly received from them the embarrassing document which, with my reply thereto, I now, at the request of the House of Assembly, willingly present to you.

With every desire to consult my Council, I was preparing for their consideration important remedial measures, which I conceived it would be advisable to adopt, and had they but afforded me those few moments for reflection which, from my sudden arrival among you, I fancied I might fairly have claimed as my due, the question which so unnecessarily they have agitated, would have proved practically to be useless.

Had they chosen to have verbally submitted to me in Council, that responsibility, and consequently the power and