

(No. 14.)

Enclosure 3, in
No. 1.

To his Excellency Sir *Francis Bond Head*, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, and of the Prussian Military Order of Merit, Lieut.-Governor of Upper Canada, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

Addresses from
the Provinces to
Lieut.-Governor.

WE, the undersigned inhabitants of Peterboro' and its vicinity, beg leave most respectfully to approach your Excellency with an offer of our sincere thanks for your uncompromising, manly, and straightforward conduct since you assumed the administration of the government of this province; we feel from it a most cheering confidence for the future, and earnestly hope that your Excellency may see no cause to alter the course you have so ably struck out for conducting the affairs of the Government.

We view, with sorrow and disapprobation, the vile attempts which have been made to embarrass your Excellency, and again thank you, Sir, for the able and firm manner in which you have met them. We are perfectly willing, and will be at any moment ready, to support your Excellency, whenever it is necessary that our energies should be called forth for that purpose.

Number of signatures attached to this Address - - 1,026

COPY of an ADDRESS to THE KING from the ASSEMBLY of *Upper Canada*, with the Appendix of Documents transmitted therewith to the Secretary of State.—
See APPENDIX (H.), p. 75.

To the Honourable the Commons House of Assembly.

Report of Com-
mittee to Commons
House of Assembly.

THE Committee to whom was referred the correspondence between his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor and the late members of the Executive Council of this province, having examined the various documents referred to them, and having carefully considered the subject discussed in the correspondence, submit the following Report:

The Committee are deeply convinced of the truth of Lord Glenelg's opinion, "that the present is an era of more difficulty and importance than any which has hitherto occurred in the history of this part of His Majesty's dominions;" and not less are they convinced that the difficulty has been increased, instead of being diminished, since the date of Lord Glenelg's despatch. It is at such a crisis that we are called to the discussion of a question of vital importance to the people of this province, a question which, in the opinion of the Committee, is no less than this: whether we have, as we have been taught to believe, a constitution "the image and transcript of that of Great Britain," or have only a mutilated and degraded constitution.

The increasing dissatisfaction which has been produced by the mal-administration of our provincial affairs, under Lieutenant-Governors Gore, Matland, and Colborne, has been so well known and so general, that even the Colonial Office seems to have been awakened to a sense of the necessity of ameliorating our condition, by holding out the encouraging prospects of relief and reform. To our complaints, too long neglected and unredressed, attention was at length to be paid. Sir John Colborne (with whose measures, maxims, and advisers His Majesty's subjects had long been dissatisfied), was removed, and a Lieutenant-Governor was sent out, to administer the affairs of the province in such a way that the people should have reason to be attached to the parent State, from sentiments of affection and gratitude, as well as from principles of duty. As he was a stranger to the province, to its affairs and history, to the wants, sentiments, and habits of its inhabitants; and as the measures complained of, under Sir John Colborne's administration, had been attributed, in a great degree, if not altogether, to evil advisers, much anxiety was felt that the new Lieutenant-Governor should call to the Executive Council persons in whose sound constitutional principles, integrity, and prudence the country could put confidence. The appointment of Messrs. Dunn, Baldwin, and Rolph, therefore, afforded general and lively satisfaction, not unmingled, however, with serious apprehensions that the influence and presence of the old Councillors, who were supposed to have advised Sir John Colborne, would embarrass his Excellency and the new Councillors in the pursuit of a more impartial, conciliatory, and constitutional system of government. The House and the country were not then aware that this Executive Council had been used as a mere screen for the acts of the Lieutenant-Governor; on the contrary, it was generally understood that they were consulted on the affairs of the province.

That the principles of the British Constitution were not put in practice, as it regarded this Council in one respect, was well known, and had been the subject of earnest complaint on the part of your honourable House; we allude to the fact that persons had been appointed or continued as Councillors whose political opinions or principles were in opposition to those of the people and their representatives, and in many cases to the express wishes and intentions