

heard of a member of Parliament moving seriously for the raising of a number of new regiments, or the building of a number of ships of the line! Yet the contrary course has been pursued here, very much indeed to the injury of the country, but at the same time relieving the Government from all responsibility.

Let us imagine the case. The Government is instructed to carry on the affairs of the Province in accordance with the wishes of the people. Well, it does nothing at all, and therefore does not act against the wishes of the people. It perhaps is of opinion, that an expenditure of money is advisable in a public work, or that a law ought to be passed for the regulation of militia, or the taxation of property. It is not moved by Government. Oh, no! Government is to wait, and ascertain the wishes of the people, expressed by their representatives. Then stands up some Member of the House, all the time, perhaps, in communication with the Government, who prefaces his remarks, by declaring that he never held office, that he never desired office, and that he never would hold office, and he moves that a sum of money be granted to Her Majesty, to make the Falls of Niagara navigable, or, to construct a railroad for racoon hunting to Hudson's Bay. He has nothing to do with the Government, not he! He would disdain the imputation. Yet he introduces into his bill the whole paraphernalia of debentures, rates of interest, clauses for raising money, taxing Districts, &c. &c. Well, the officers of Government are in the House, and they, wishing to act according to the wishes of the people, most emphatically disclaim any connection of the Government with the question; and to shew that there is no connection, one lays his hand on his heart, and votes one way, another, to shew his independence, votes the other way, while a third puts on his hat, and goes home to dinner, because it is not a Government question. Then the measure passes the Commons, and is taken to the Legislative Council; but in that body, the wishes of the people being already expressed, the officers of Government must hold their tongues, because if they are in opposition, they are opposing the expressed wishes of the people through their representatives. If they are in favour of it, and are wise, they hold their tongues, lest it might be deemed a Government measure; and the bill passes on to be presented for the assent of the Queen's representative.

The law officers of the Crown then examine it, to see if there be any thing legally wrong; and the Governor finding nothing of that kind, and finding also the *wishes of the people* expressed in the bill before him, gives the Royal assent. Surely this is all in accordance with instructions.

But the Act has scarcely reached England, when the Governor finds it necessary to write a despatch, and to say, that the public revenues and credit are exhausted,—that the projects have been all failures; in short, that what to do in the premises, he knows not. All that he can say is, that he conducted his Government according to his instructions, and to the wishes of the people.

In the name of common sense, is this Government? Is it not the most childish nonsense to expect any thing from Government upon such a system? It is certainly most comfortable for Governor and Government Officers, to charge the House of Assembly with the evil state of affairs, but where is the House of Assembly? A new Election has scattered it to the winds, and the Government and the new House join together in condemning the old House, who were the *real Government*! Is it not the veriest nonsense to call this state of things Government, under any Constitution?—Yet, is it not all mathematically deducible from the course pursued in this Colony, of granting money to Government, without its being insisted on, in the first instance, that Government should take upon itself the responsibility of asking for the money, or of refusing to ask for it? But we are exceeding our limits, and must bring this article to a conclusion.

We have thus founded all our arguments in favour of the Union on the vast increase of importance in Upper Canada interests: that increase is founded on coming immigration; and if the expectation be well founded, it is demonstrable that independent legislation cannot be permitted in a country lying between Upper Canada and the sea, or that Lower Canada can be allowed to take the profits of interior commerce, and bear no part of the expenditure. If, on the other hand, our expectations be visionary—if the population do not rapidly increase by means of immigration, how, we would ask, can the country prosper? or how, if we must ask the question, can it remain a British Province?