

Chap. policy of America hurried these provinces,
 XIV. impressed the people with serious apprehen-
 1811. sions, and all parties seemed to concur in a
 desire for unanimity, as essential to the public
 security.

Soon after his excellency's arrival, major-general Brock was appointed president and administrator of the government in Upper Canada, instead of lieut.-governor Gore, who had recently retired. To obtain a local knowledge of the frontiers of the lower province, which were likely soon to become the theatre of war, his excellency, shortly after his arrival, set out on a tour of inspection, visiting in the district of Montreal, the forts of St. John, Chambly, William Henry, and the military positions in their neighbourhood. From the period of his arrival until the opening of parliament, we meet with no extraordinary occurrence.

The parliament met on the 21st of February, 1812. The governor in his speech informed the legislature that having been appointed by the Prince Regent to the chief command of the british american provinces, he had hastened, in obedience to his orders, to assume the administration of Lower Canada, but that his commission not having arrived, he continued to administer the government under a provisional authority to that effect. He congratulated them on the brilliant achievements which had attended the british arms in the deliverance of Portugal, and for the rescue of Spain from the tyranny of the ruler of France. "Notwith-

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