

it, but it was so inadequate, that a great number have rather chosen to serve the King for nothing than for such pay; and it has raised more indignation in the people than if they had been offered no pay, for it has just allowed their right to be paid, yet refused due payment. These, with several unnecessary, illegal, cruel imprisonments, and many other lesser circumstances of oppression, have filled the country with discontent; and when an invasion was threatened last winter, it was plain how the Canadians were disposed, in some places they actually took up arms against the King's troops.

Such was the situation of affairs in Canada, when the Council met a third time for the purpose of legislation and settling the Province. This was the first and only meeting of the legislative Council, at which the Chief-Justice was present, it can therefore only concern him to give an account of his conduct during that session; but it was necessary to enter into this detail that the reasons of his conduct might be made evident.

There were four propositions made in Council by others, and two by him. The Governor proposed a regulation of fees; though the Chief-Justice thought a fee bill very improper in the present wavering uncertain course of practice in the Courts, and though the fees then taken were not exorbitant in proportion to the business improperly rendered necessary;

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