

habit and education to the English manners, laws, and government, with respect to all temporal matters. And therefore they thought the establishment of an assembly in the province, consisting of protestant members only, agreeable to the directions which his Majesty had been pleased repeatedly to issue for that purpose in his commissions of Governour in chief of the province successively given to the Generals Murray and Carleton, would not be an unjust measure. And they likewise had many reasons for thinking that it would not be an inexpedient or impolitic measure, nor generally disagreeable to the body of the Canadian freeholders, though it might probably be clamoured against by the Romish priests of the province and by a few Canadian lawyers and some of the noblesse residing in the towns of Quebeck and Montreal, and, perhaps, a few of the merchants of those towns to the number of a few dozens, or scores, of persons in the whole province. They had, I say, many reasons for thinking that it would not be offensive to the general body of the Canadian freeholders, provided those freeholders were permitted, (as all the English and other protestant inhabitants in the province wished them to be) to vote for the election of members of the assembly, notwithstanding their profession of the Roman-Catholick religion, though not to be elected into it themselves. Their reasons