

circumstances. It was suggested with deference that the principal advantage to be drawn from that important part of our population, would be found in their aptitude for partisan warfare; and that, in no probable circumstances, might it be proper to employ above one sixth of such as are subject to militia-service, in regular hostility. The religious and civil institutions of the Lower Province were asserted to be admirably calculated to call forth the whole energies of the French Canadians, in defence of their Country; and the sources of their well-founded antipathy to the American Government, were carefully explored.

The character of the rest of the population of both Provinces was afterwards reviewed; and their feelings and interests were considered as promising what has strikingly appeared during the late campaign; an invincible energy in rallying round the government and in promoting its measures. The loyalists, British settlers and their descendants, in Upper Canada, have had glorious opportunities of contributing to defend their country and the honor of their King, against the worst enemies of both.

The advantages derivable from the local situation of the Canadas were next adverted to. A knowledge of the best military posts and positions was ascribed to the Provincial Government; and anticipations are hazarded of various precautions and expedients, commonly employed against an invading force. An attention to all such posts and positions as had once been chosen and fortified by French Engineers was humbly recommended, as well as a careful study of the conduct and events of the French and English campaigns in this Country.

The internal resources of the Canadas, with respect to provisions were slightly inspected; and inferences were drawn favorable to their ability, with a reasonable degree of aid from Britain, to furnish subsistence, during a long war. Our native supplies of timber, iron and hemp, all necessary for the building of a river-flotilla, were justly considered of great importance.

After a passing remark upon the necessity of unceasing protection and encouragement to the internal trade of the Country, I began, with a trembling hand, to sketch my expectations from the personal character and influence of our Governor General, in doing which I attempted, though in vain, by glowing colours, to display the enthusiasm of the whole population, as manifested on every occasion, by addresses and other publications, as well as by oral expression. While performing this interesting part of my task, a variety of opinions fell insensibly from my pen, which marked the spirit of the times, and were found congenial to the general feeling.