

of their responsibility for the acts of the Government, and of the consequent necessity for their advice thereupon, was treated as the requirement of a stipulation which a Governor should not make, and as an attempt to render the Queen's Representative a subservient tool in their hands.

The people of Canada watched with great anxiety the progress of the discussions in the Provincial Parliament consequent upon the retirement of the Executive Councillors; and the resolute adhesion of the great majority of their Representatives to the principles of Responsible Government was received with joyful acclamation.

The people of Canada looked then to the Head of the Government for a new recognition of the system established in the Province—but they saw with disappointment and alarm a feeble and unconstitutional attempt made by the Governor General to carry on the business of Government by his own unadvised and direct communications with the Houses of the Legislature, and with the assistance of persons holding no position in which they could be made answerable for the Administration of public affairs.

The people of Canada daily heard the professions of the Head of the Government, of his adherence to the Constitution of Canada as interpreted by the Resolutions of the Legislative Assembly; and they looked therefore for an immediate dissolution of Parliament, and a new Election. They could not conceive the consistency of admitted Responsible Government with the administration of affairs without an Executive Council, or with a Council not possessing the confidence of the Legislative Assembly.

Nevertheless this Colony has continued without such a Council from the month of December to this time, and so it may continue for any indefinite time at the will and pleasure of the Governor General, according to his interpretation of your Constitution.

This Association now publicly addresses itself to you, that we may fully understand each other; and that, when the time at length comes, when it shall be permitted to you to exercise your Constitutional rights, there may be no misunderstanding or disagreement, and that none may be deceived, or have the excuse of being misled.

We think that the reiteration by His Excellency the Governor-General, of his wish and determination to adhere to the Resolutions of 1841, as the same are contrasted with His Excellency's acts, has scarcely deceived any one, though some persons who