

father to son ; and, while they were alarmed by the spectre of direct taxation, they could not conceive how the produce of direct taxes could be applied to enhance the value of their lands, nor connect their interest with the general improvement of the country. In their restricted view, *the operations of the Merchant were for his sole interest ; while those of the Lawyer, Notary and Priest were chiefly beneficial to their employers.* The new members were entirely under the controul of the Lawyers and Notaries, and increased the strength of the Majority against all Assessments and direct taxes, and in favor of taxes on Merchandise.

*Sir Robert Shore Milnes*, and the Majority of the Executive Councillors, having no other object than to obtain the means of carrying on the Government, took no decided part in the financial question as to the objects of taxation ; and the commercial interest was in the minority in the Legislative Council as well as in the House of Assembly.

The repeated defeats of all attempts to modify the Feudal Tenure could not however deter some young members of the Assembly from agitating the question, and detailing the numerous impediments to the progress of the Colony in industry, both agricultural and commercial, which that tenure entailed. The eighth Chapter accordingly gives an interesting discussion upon the Bill introduced by *Mr. John Caldwell*, "*to enable the Seigneurs of this Province to compound, for their feudal rights and dues, with their vassals and censitaires.*" The House of Assembly would not even go into Committee upon this Bill, which was considered as calculated to encourage Protestants to intrude themselves into the parishes and towns, diminishing not only the tythe to the Priests, but also the number of votes at elections in favor of French Canadian predominancy.

The influence of foreign commerce, and the indefatigable perseverance of interested individuals, produced several Acts connected with the local improvement of the country this Session ; and it is a painful subject of reflection, that all the attempts of well intentioned individuals to coalesce the inhabitants of British origin with French Canadians, in Libraries, Banks, Insurance Companies, Hotels, Assembly Rooms, and even Concerts of Music, have ended in discord and complete division. This incompatibility of temper is entirely owing to the ambition of predominancy engendered by a Constitution, which in its progress exasperated those feelings of hostility, which during thirty years after the Conquest were gradually softened down, permitting the closest ties which bind families together to take place frequently ; and French Canadians and Britons, were described by travellers as amalgamating into one people, in the year 1784.

The same Chapter states the conclusion of *Sir Robert Shore Milnes'* Administration, and gives grounds of suspicion, that his Report to His Majesty's Ministers would have avoided any distinct views of the defects of the Constitution, and of the permanent causes which

would prevent the  
instead of being en

After *Sir Robert*  
on account of his  
a Puisne Judge of  
District of Queb  
tion of the Gove  
virtue of his being  
Council.

The administrati  
of his predecessor,  
lish parties, or to s  
effects of the syst  
upon His Majesty's  
body against Britis

The second Sess  
February, and end  
from the opportuni  
during this weak a  
of the House of A  
writing which, tho  
The malevolent pa  
were chiefly excite  
erful body of merc  
all purposes, adopt  
dy mentioned, c  
interests of the r  
Canadian constitue

The merchants,  
*that local establish*  
*rection, should be c*  
*tricts, counties and*  
*quired.* The toast  
bers, who had sup  
been published in  
House of Assembl  
ernment ; and *Isa*  
party, and Mr. Ed  
ordered to be take

But those two i

\* The toasts allude  
be a memorial of the  
grounds of prosecution  
and disinterested frien  
that the French Cana  
with mere power, whic  
polise, if that were pe  
of all others.