

position and proceedings of the Legislative Assemblies of this colony, in consequence of the representations of any one of its most respectable inhabitants.

Your Excellency having transmitted to the Legislative Council the despatch and documents referred to, as the only method which we feel could have been consistent with the dignity of the Government for giving to them the publicity required by His Majesty's Minister, we have thought it the more regular and respectful course to address to your Excellency our unanimous sentiments upon them, under the expectation, however, that your Excellency will deem it proper to transmit a copy of this address to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Legislative Council Chamber, }
2d day of February 1833. }

John B. Robinson, Speaker.

TO His Excellency Sir John Colborne, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-governor of the Province of Upper Canada, Major-general commanding His Majesty's Forces therein, &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Upper Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled, return our thanks for your Excellency's message of the 12th day of January last, transmitting a despatch of the Right honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in answer to certain letters and documents addressed to his Lordship for the purpose of proving that the people of this happy and prosperous colony are oppressed and burthened with grievances, and have become so discontented, that there is danger of revolt and bloodshed unless those alleged burthens and grievances are removed and redressed.

We most readily concede that the noble Secretary of State was actuated by the best motives in framing the despatch in question, but we cannot refrain from expressing our great regret, that it did not occur to his Lordship, that allegations thus deeply affecting the character of His Majesty's subjects of Upper Canada rested on no better testimony than that of an individual who had been twice expelled this House, and who, in consequence of his having fabricated and reiterated libels of the grossest description, had been declared unfit and unworthy a seat in the Assembly during the present Parliament. If this fact had occurred to his Lordship, it is reasonable to suppose that he would not have felt himself at liberty to recognize the author of this additional calumny on the people of this province, as the agent or as speaking the sentiments of any portion of the loyal inhabitants of the province of Upper Canada, and would therefore have considered it utterly unnecessary to enter into so elaborate an examination or refutation of anything advanced by him.

The House of Assembly are unwilling to occupy your Excellency's time or attention by commenting on the details of the despatch, or on the different matters referred to in it, as constituting grounds of complaint on the part of a few of the people of this province; they will merely remark, that the remedy for any ills alleged to exist is placed in the hands, and is within the constitutional power, of the legislature of the colony; and the noble Secretary of State does the people of this province but justice in believing, that there are no people on earth who are less likely to yield to the unmanly weakness of despairing of the public good, and of betraying their most sacred duties in a pusillanimous spirit. Acting upon principles and feelings diametrically opposite to those imputed to them, we are confident that they will take care to exercise their rights as freemen and British subjects, in such a manner as will ensure the election of representatives who will maintain our excellent constitution, guard our rights, and with the concurrence of the other branches of the legislature, adopt such measures as may appear necessary for removing any just ground of complaint.

Commons House of Assembly, }
9th day of February 1833. }

(signed) *Arch^d M'Lean,*
Speaker.