

they inculcate have served as the rule of my public conduct in the administration of the Government of this province; and that in selecting individuals for office, I have invariably made choice of those who, according to the best of my judgment, were best qualified for it, without partiality, favour or affection.

It appears from the statement which accompanies this despatch, and referred to above, that of the appointments to offices of profit and emolument which have been made during my administration, more than one-half have been bestowed upon Canadians of French origin. The assertion of the House of Assembly, therefore, that "it is seldom men of French Canadian origin find their way into office under any circumstances," has been fully disproved. And with reference to the complaints of the Assembly upon that head, I beg to call your Lordship's attention to the fact, that the whole of the preferment of the Roman-catholic church in the province, exceeding 25,000 *l.* per annum, besides fees and dues, is almost exclusively in the hands of "men of French Canadian origin;" the head of their church, in the province (himself invariably a French Canadian enjoying a large revenue, of which 1,000 *l.* per annum is paid out of the military chest), disposing of that preferment at pleasure, and without the slightest interference or control being ever attempted on the part of the Local Government. I beg not to be understood in stating this fact, that I contemplate or would desire to see any change in the present system of patronage in the Catholic church, far from it; the fact is brought forward merely with reference to the complaints of the Assembly.

In addition to the foregoing advantage enjoyed almost exclusively by "men of French Canadian origin," the appointment of teachers in the schools established in the country parts of the province, under the authority of Acts of the Provincial Legislature, with salaries and allowances amounting altogether to 18,000 *l.* per annum, is virtually at the disposal of the Members of the House of Assembly, of whom the great majority (66 out of 88) are of French origin.

Taking together the facts which I have had the honour of stating above, your Lordship will perhaps be of opinion that the Assembly have no reasonable cause to complain of the men of "French Canadian origin" being upon an inferior footing to their fellow subjects of British and other origin in the province, in regard to the enjoyment of offices of profit or emolument.

The House of Assembly next complain, that "even the sacred character of justice has been recently polluted in its source, by the appointing to the high office of judge for the district of Montreal" a man who was a violent and decided "partisan of the administration of the Earl of Dalhousie, and the declared enemy of the laws which he is bound to administer."

The appointment, above alluded to, is evidently that of Mr. Gale, to be puisne judge for the district of Montreal; and the charge of the Assembly, that "he is the declared enemy of the laws he is bound to administer," is one of so great importance, considering the high judicial situation of the accused party, that it may be presumed the Assembly will follow it up by a more formal proceeding directed against Mr. Gale individually; in which case, an opportunity will be afforded him of defending his own character.

I will therefore only remark, with reference to the appointment of Mr. Gale, that he is indebted for it to his own character for integrity and professional knowledge, and to the recommendation of a gentleman holding one of the highest judicial appointments in the province, and who himself is universally respected.

For the rest, the political opinions entertained by Mr. Gale, whatever those may be, have never been brought under my notice, in the course of my administration, by any act or proceeding of his; and it did not appear to me to be either necessary or proper, when the question of appointing him to a seat on the bench was under my consideration, to refer to political controversies long past, and upon the merits of which a great diversity of opinion prevails in the province.

I come next to the complaint of the Assembly, in relation to my refusal to comply with the desire expressed by the town-council of Montreal, during the past summer, to extend the quarantine regulations to that city, and to advance funds from the public chest in aid of indigent emigrants. A reference to facts will in this, as in the former case, furnish the most conclusive answer to the complaints of the House of Assembly; but, before I proceed, it is necessary to apprise your Lordship that the town-council of Montreal enters very warmly into the general