

Francis Head attempts to explain the matter, but his explanation is a tissue of miserable quibbles. He does not deny the fact, but contends that the document was not 'of the nature applied for:' and concludes by saying 'I denied no such thing; but'—reader, pray thee mark the *but*—'stated that I entered into no bond or agreement.' What is this but a denial?

From this time forward Sir Francis Head's language and conduct were characteristic rather of a madman than of a person in sane mind. He threw himself completely into the arms of the Tories, forgot all his previous professions of reform, and indulged in the most offensive language towards the reformers, whom he designated as revolutionists, rebels, &c. &c.

The Assembly in the mean time, got through their business with all possible dispatch; and to mark their sense of Sir Francis Head's conduct, they refused supplies. Hereupon the Governor did in Upper Canada what the Council did in Lower Canada—he withheld the royal assent from all the Appropriation Bills which had been passed by the two Houses. He afterwards thought proper to attribute to the rejection of the Supply Bill, amounting to only about 7000*l.*, the whole of the distress and inconvenience which arose from the loss of all the money Bills.

At the end of May the Governor dissolved the House of Assembly. The new elections took place at the end of June and the beginning of July; the result was, that a House, consisting of forty or forty-one Tories and twenty Reformers, was substituted for a House containing forty Reformers to twenty Tories. This extraordinary result astonished the whole country. How it was brought about we shall briefly explain.

In Upper Canada the Executive possesses extraordinary means of corruption. In the first place, the Governor has at his disposal an almost infinite number of small places—the tenure of which is 'during pleasure'—all over the country. These innumerable petty offices not merely enable the Governor to command the votes of the incumbents and their families, but render subservient to the will of the Executive all those (including that numerous class, 'fathers of families') who view office with a longing eye. It is fearful to contemplate the extent of demoralization in Upper Canada arising from this single cause. One single office may stand as the bait for a dozen hungry expectants, and were it not for the existence of a numerous and independent yeomanry, it would be difficult to say where the evil would end.

The next source of political corruption is the system of disposing of waste lands, for a price payable by instalments. The Land Company and other large landholders are in the habit of selling lands at a price payable in four or five annual instalments. The industrious settler, ever eager to possess land, no sooner saves