

1839. both sides are constantly at work plotting mischief; and many inconsiderate persons, by the course they are now pursuing at the 'responsible government' meetings, promote the designs of the most criminal characters. The foundations of civil order were broken up by the occurrences of the year 1837, and general mistrust and bad feeling open out a way for the display of the worst passions of the worst men, of which they seem keenly disposed to avail themselves." And again, on the 15th of October, he added—"Upon the whole, I wish it were in my power to give your Lordship a more gratifying account of the feeling throughout the Province, from the impressions made in my own mind, than I have it in my power to impart. Your Lordship will observe in the statements herewith transmitted,—and the same have been communicated to this Government by many other sources,—that serious disturbances in the Province are still looked for."

The advent of the Governor-General and his assumption of the Government of Upper Canada—a measure which nothing but the peculiar circumstances of the time would have justified—had been looked for with much anxiety, though with very different anticipations, by the two parties. While his connection with the Home Government and his previous political career caused the official or "compact" party to regard him with suspicion, as probably inimical to their supremacy, the reform party were naturally disposed for the same reasons to look to him with more confidence and hope.