

In February 1777, the Council were again assembled for the purpose of legislation, and the King's instructions being still kept close, a set of very extraordinary ordinances were obtained, contrary to the King's purposes and intentions, as declared in the instructions. These ordinances quenched all hope, for it could not enter into any man to conceive, that a Governor would pass such ordinances, in opposition to the earnest desires, prayers, and formal representations of the most substantial people in the Province, and contrary to the King's instructions then in his possession, but concealed by him.

The Act of Parliament for the government of the Province having been, by these means, ^{per-}verted very differently from its true sense and intent, and being loaded with the undeserved odium of being supposed to legalize many acts of unnecessary oppression, has been rendered an object of public dislike; whereas, had the wise and lenient measures recommended by his Majesty been attended to, there can be little doubt, that this Act would have given the Province a firm, good, legal establishment; and ere this, would have been generally considered as a blessing. In this train matters continued with but little difference, except that a small pittance has been paid the Canadians for their labour, if they choose to ask for
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