

internal government of the country approved and recommended by the Earl of Durham, they hold themselves to be under no obligation to his Lordship for endeavouring to raise up domestic dissensions, which can have no other effect than obstructing or delaying the restoration of that social harmony which once happily existed, and which all benevolent men of every party anxiously and earnestly desire to see re-established in the province.

No obligation to Lord Durham for trying to raise up domestic dissensions.

If Lord Durham had given himself the trouble to inquire into facts, and to consider them, he would have been convinced of the impropriety and injustice of designating, as he has done, the great body of the people of the country as a "compact," united to tyrannize over and oppress their less numerous and less powerful fellow-subjects.

Injustice in Lord Durham designating the great body of the people a "compact."

When the Constitution was conferred on the Canadas in 1791, and the first Governor-general Simcoe assumed the administration of affairs, there were little more than 10,000 inhabitants in the upper province.

State of the colony in 1791.

His Excellency was accompanied by personal friends who had served under him in the war of the revolution. These, with few exceptions, were appointed to fill the various public offices in the colony. There are few of these most excellent and venerated men now remaining, and none of them who are not superannuated or incapable of further labour. Notwithstanding the natural and reasonable claims of their children and descendants to consideration, very few of them have been appointed to any situations of emolument, and none of them, that your committee are aware of, have succeeded to their father's vacant offices. The patronage of the Crown, even during the short period that has elapsed since the organization of the government, has been widely and indiscriminately extended among all classes and all denominations of Her Majesty's subjects, without the slightest regard to family or hereditary claims; and so far from a monopoly of office or power being retained by these persons, it was at one time a source of much dissatisfaction and complaint that they had been ungenerously overlooked. But his Lordship, as if to meet this objection, that he probably apprehended might be raised to the part of his report to which these observations apply, has announced to Her Majesty and the British nation, that the third party to whom reference has been made, viz., the emigrants from the United Kingdom, who have settled in the province since the last American war, regard the entire of the original and native population, whether reformers or others, as a "family compact," combining to exclude them from the enjoyment of offices conferring emolument or power; that this large and spirited class of people feel as aliens instead of citizens; and that they possess no greater right as British subjects than if they resided in the United States. Your committee cannot suppose that Lord Durham has imagined such a state of society; they are well convinced that some disappointed or discontented person has imposed upon his Lordship's credulity, and led him to promulgate an opinion, the tendency of which to great and permanent injury cannot be easily counteracted.

Those who came with first Governor filled various public offices. Few of these remaining; and few of their children have been appointed to situations of emolument. Patronage of the Crown extended to all classes.

Lord Durham affirms that the third class consider the other two classes as a family compact, combined to exclude them from emolument or power.

His Lordship's credulity must have been imposed upon by some discontented person.

No portion of the community can suffer more directly or seriously from the effects of this erroneous assertion than the very persons who, it is alleged, are labouring under the baneful influence complained against; and it is with no common satisfaction that your committee find among their number three gentlemen well known throughout the province, the representatives of three distinct constituencies, and who, being of the number of those who his Lordship states are regarded as aliens in this portion of their Sovereign's dominions, are best able to pronounce upon the accuracy of his Lordship's statements.

Three gentlemen of the committee, of the third class.

One of these gentlemen, Colonel Prince, is an Englishman by birth, and was bred to the legal profession. He came to this province six years ago, and brought with him a considerable sum of money, which he has expended in purchasing and improving real estate in the western district. On the first occasion of issuing a commission of the peace for that division of the province, he was included in it; and at the next general election he was returned to represent the county of Essex, by a population almost exclusively Canadian; and the legislature, to mark their sense of his gallant conduct upon different occasions, in resisting the invasion of the country by foreign brigands, passed a law admitting him to practise as a barrister and attorney in all the courts. The Lieutenant-governor soon after conferred upon him the rank of colonel in the militia, and intrusted him with the command of a battalion embodied for actual service, and which is still on duty. The second is Mr. R. Rollo Hunter, a gentleman of independent property, and a native of Scotland. He has resided in the province six years, is in the commission of the peace, and has been elected as representative for the county of Oxford. The third, Mr. J. A. H. Powell, is an Irishman. He came to the country since the last war; his father held the rank of major in the army; he sold his commission, and settled at Perth, in the district of Bathurst, of which he was appointed sheriff. Upon his death, his son (Mr. J. A. H. Powell) succeeded him, and has since been returned a member for the county in which he resides.

Colonel Prince.

Mr. R. R. Hunter.

Mr. J. A. H. Powell

That which has been above related of the reception these gentlemen have met with, and the total absence of all ground for considering that they have been treated or regarded as "aliens," may be said of the whole body of British and Irish immigrants who have taken up their abode in this province; and the three members of your committee, to whom special reference has been made, conceive that they are bound in justice, calmly but unequivocally, to deny that Lord Durham has been correctly informed with respect to the feelings of the original settlers in Upper Canada towards them; on the contrary, they know that if there be one matter more than another that they feel a deep interest in, and desire to promote, it is, emigration from the British islands. They are aware of the immense advantage the country has derived from this source, in general wealth, as well as in their social and political relations; and it is universally considered that the check it has experienced from the recent difficulties in the two provinces is among the most serious, if not the very greatest.

The three gentlemen above deny that Lord Durham has been correctly informed.