

posterior a notion for serious discussion. If the object of retaining this Colony as an appendage of the Empire, be merely to confer the patronage of office on a Lieutenant Governor, let it at once be openly avowed, and let us not be led to believe that higher and nobler motives actuated the British nation. The Governor must advise with some one (in appointments to office) because he cannot know the parties qualified for office. Candidates for situations must either apply themselves or be recommended by some friendly influence. Whether then is it better that the appointment of Magistrates, Commissioners, Sheriffs and other public functionaries should pass under the review of the chosen representatives of the landed proprietors and commercial enterprise of the Province and be selected by the Executive Council who would be held directly responsible for the appointments or that they should as at present be chosen upon the private reference of an Attorney General, a political Judge or some secret and irresponsible courtier."

Sir Robert Peel says, "There is no doubt that the first principle is that the Sovereign should be governed in making appointments by the advice of her Ministers."

This is precisely what we desire to see carried into practice in Canada. We cannot understand why her Majesty's subjects in this Province should not enjoy the same beneficial operation of the Constitution as is enjoyed by their fellow subjects elsewhere. Or as Mr. Gowan very justly asks, "Why should we be debarred of the same privileges enjoyed by us when by our native fire sides in old England."

The doctrine of Sir Charles Metcalfe, that a British subject ceases to enjoy his rights and privileges as such by becoming a Colonist, is certainly a most extraordinary and humiliating one, which we are

satisfied will never be sanctioned or submitted to by a free people.

We have drawn largely from Mr. Gowan in the course of this Address, because we find his remarks so applicable to our present circumstances. And that gentleman is now high in the confidence of his Excellency, we the more readily refer to them. We are not ignorant that a certain faction have endeavored to charge disloyalty upon the people for their honest and constitutional exertions after a just Government, but we never heless claim the right to think for ourselves in this respect, and it may not therefore appear strange if we think differently.

Hear Mr. Gowan once more upon this very subject. "Here (in Canada) every man no matter how loyal, who asks for the introduction of the British principle of responsibility in the administration of the Colonial Government is denounced as a rebel and a traitor to his country. It is in vain to urge that through his whole life he has been a devoted loyalist; that though the partial insurrections of 1837, 1838, and 1839, he rushed to the post of danger, and volunteered to expose his body to every passing bullet; nay, even the wounds upon his own body, received in his country's defence are not sufficient to screen him from the malignant opposition of antagonists or to hush to silence the calumny of the secret and irresponsible enemy."

When the late Executive Councillors accepted office, they did so with the avowed understanding that *Responsible Government was a reality*. That its concession to the people of Canada was made in good faith, and that thenceforth the people of this Province were to be permitted to exercise their legitimate control over their own local affairs.

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