

The Constitutional Act of 1791 will supply another subject of deliberation, with a view to determine what measures may safely be taken to correct the defects which have hitherto interfered, at least in the Lower Province, with its successful working. The Constitution of the Legislative Council has formed the chief topic of complaint with the House of Assembly of Lower Canada, and they have insisted that the only remedy is to be found in making the Council elective. On this subject the following Resolution was last year passed by both Houses of Parliament: "That in the existing state of Lower Canada, it is unadvisable to make the Legislative Council of that Province an elective body, but it is expedient that measures be adopted for securing to that branch of the Legislature a greater degree of public confidence."

It will be for you and the committee to consider in what manner the judgment thus pronounced by Parliament can best be carried into effect.

There are other very important subjects regarding which you will probably think it right to consult the same advisers,—such, for example, as the provision that should be made to meet the necessary expenses of the Civil Government in Lower Canada—the state of the law affecting the tenure of landed property in that Province—the establishment of a court for the trial of appeals and impeachments. There is, in truth, not one of the many interesting questions relating to the good government and well-being of the two Canadas, which might not very properly engage the attention of the committee.

On all the subjects which I have specified, and on others which may come under the notice of the committee, your Lordship will probably have to recommend the adoption of some legislative measures in this country. You will transmit to me an explanation of such measures in the fullest detail, in order that the Government may consider of the propriety of submitting them to Parliament.

You are authorized to fix the times and places of the meetings of the committee, to adjourn them from time to time, and to frame all regulations necessary for the despatch of business. You are also empowered to dissolve the committee at your pleasure.

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