

maintaining the interests of the Executive. The Lieutenant-Governor acted under a Commission, which gave him much control, and therefore, though a Legislature existed necessarily for the purpose of law making, it did not for a moment possess the power of determining the political complexion of the policy of the Executive.

In *The Makers of Canada* (Joseph Howe), Mr. Justice Longley (p. 14) refers to the Legislative Councils of the Maritime Provinces as follows:—

. . . The real functions of government were in the hands of a privileged class, and the great mass of the people was permanently excluded from all hope of participating therein.

The persistent obstruction by the Legislative Council of the work of the Assembly conducted in no small degree to the irritation which led to the Rebellion of 1837. But, notwithstanding the experience of a nominative Legislative Council under representative government, when responsible government was conceded, as it was in Canada by the Union Act of 1841, and shortly after in all the Provinces of British North America, the nominative system was continued; but its tendencies to thwart the wishes of the popular Assembly were greatly modified. The appointments to the Council were made by responsible Ministers, and office holders were no longer conspicuous among its members. Though