

ions in England ; as our House of Assembly is analogous to that of the Metropolitan Government, they should not have their Bills rejected.

The Inhabitants of this Province, complained that they were unable to manage their local concerns. This grievance has been partly redressed. The towns of Quebec and Montréal, have since been incorporated, though the Acts were sent home for His Majesty's sanction, and it was granted. The Townships and Parishes in this Province, being desirous of the same powers to manage their local concerns, the House of Assembly have passed the Township and Parish Officer's Bill, and the Legislative Council have rejected it. Sir, the Legislative Council of this Province, are absolute in the exercise of their powers. To no human power in this colony, are they accountable. There is no power in the Province that can affect them, but the Almighty. They are nominated and recommended by the Colonial Executive, and called to their station by the King's Mandamus, and when in possession of it, the King who appoints nor the people for whose benefit they are appointed, cannot exercise any control over them or their acts, let them be ever so injurious to the country. If the Legislative Councillors were elected, they should not be unconditionally, for life ; nor be invested with such absolute power as they at present possess. Men possess dispositions of which even themselves are not fully aware, and which, a change in their circumstances, frequently calls into action. How then is it possible for one man to judge of the latent principles which may lay in the breast of another, and which may develop themselves, as soon as they may be actively exercised. For the safety and well-being of the Province, it is then highly necessary that the Members should be accountable somewhere for their proceedings. And to whom shall they be responsible ? If we answer, the government at home, to send there on every occasion, would certainly be attended with great delays and trouble, which could not fail to be equally injurious to the accusers and accused. How then can the evil be remedied ? The House of Assembly have declared in their resolutions, that they ought to be elected. They should not be elected precisely in the same manner as the Members of the House of Assembly are, for in such case they would be a mere counterpart to that body. They should be so chosen as to form a proper counterpoise to the House of Assembly, and be amenable to the country. The House of Assembly have not prescribed the mode of applying the principle of election, but are confident that the Imperial Parliament, in its justice and wisdom, will easily devise some means by which it may be effected to the satisfaction of Colony. The mildness and forbearance of the House of Assembly, is very remarkable, when we consider that since 1810, they have had large majorities in favor of reform. They have, at one period or another, had their expectation raised to a full and effectual remedy of all the abuses in the colonial government. This was when Sir James Buxton arrived to administer the government, under the new Colonial policy that was so fondly expected, from the report which I have referred to. But forbearance in the guardians of the chartered rights of the