

tion of the two Countries is so great that no parallel can be preserved; and, looking at the subject practically, they perceive at once very serious objections to the proposal.

The intention of the Government is without doubt to nominate to the Legislative Council sensible and well educated men, possessing large landed property, separate from office, and having influence in the different Counties in which they reside; upon a supposition that such men would be likely to concur with the most respectable majorities of the House of Assembly, in all questions which affect the great interests of the Country, and so preserve harmony in the Legislature. But unhappily such men are not to be found in the several Counties of Nova-Scotia; and even if they could be found, there is much reason for believing they would not be more ready than the Members of the present Council to concur with the House of Assembly in such objects as have sometimes been differently entertained in the two Houses. If the personal allusion may be excused, it may be remarked that the discernment of Sir James Kempt, when Lieutenant-Governor of Nova-Scotia, and anxiously looking for such persons as have been described, placed two Members of the present Board in the Council, because he was satisfied they answered the description as completely as any individuals that could be found in the Colony. But it is well known, and the Minutes of the Council supply the information, that these individuals, wholly unconnected with office, whose independence in every respect has never been questioned, have been uniformly opposed to the views of the House of Assembly—on each of those few occasions when a difference of opinion in the two Branches of the Legislature has given dissatisfaction to the Lower House, and excited their complaints, it is only on account of the difficulty or rather the impossibility of finding more persons in the different sections of the Province with all the qualifications which these possess; that the number of the present Council has not been increased. In selecting individuals, therefore, to fill a more extensive Legislative Council, a different description of persons must of necessity be taken, and the most eligible that could be found would be so many of the best Members of the House of Assembly as would be required, or of the fittest Candidates for seats there, whose services would be more important and more valuable in that House, which could ill spare them, than in the other, and whose appointment to the Council would therefore be an injury to the House of Assembly and to the Province.

The Government, it is believed, look forward to an increase of strength and influence in the Legislative Council as the natural result of the proposed alteration. But those in Nova-Scotia who desire the change are loud in the complaint that the Council are already too powerful. The Government, therefore, must be disappointed in their expectation, or the dissatisfaction of those in the Colony who desire the change must be increased as soon as the change is effected, and either of these consequences is very undesirable.

But perhaps a more serious objection will be found in the effect that had been produced in those Colonies, into which the measure has already been introduced, the present state of the Canadas supplies such objection in full force. The measures of their Legislative Councils for some years past have given rise to more complaint and invective than were ever known under the more ancient constitution of the Colonial Councils. These complaints indeed have been so multiplied, that an Elective Council, which would inevitably lead to a Republican Constitution, is boldly insisted upon by the complainants as the only effectual remedy for their alleged grievances.

In New Brunswick the experiment has been recently made, and, instead of affording general satisfaction, has created unusual discontent in that peaceable Province, which will not be easily allayed unless by a return to the ancient system.

The Records in the Colonial Office will shew whether Nova-Scotia, under its present Constitution, has been more or less quiet and content and easily governed than those Colonies into which a different Constitution has been introduced, while the testimony of its Governors and the Journals of its Council will shew, what part that Body, as at present constituted, has had in promoting the welfare of the people. The Board will be excused from saying more on this point, but earnestly request the reference and the comparison may be made by His Majesty's Secretary of State.

If it should be alleged, as a reason for making the proposed alteration, that some desire for it has been expressed, it may be observed that change of any and of every kind will never be without advocates, while discontent and self interested men form a part of every community. There has been no evidence that the measure is generally desired in the Colony, and if some or even many wish for it, it is not probable that all these will be satisfied