

"restricts in effect, both the crown and the assembly, in the exercise of the undoubted prerogatives of the one, and the peculiar rights of the other."

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

To you, exhortation is not wanted, eloquence is needless.— In former sessions you have shewn yourselves my true friends, the true friends of your country, of yourselves, & of the British empire; the constitutional guards, and firm supporters, of those liberties, which the generous nation, under whom I live, and move, and have my being, has granted and guaranteed to me and you.

I recommend you to take into your immediate consideration, the difficulties and embarrassments which the Executive has laboured under, in consequence of no bill of appropriation having passed last session to meet the expenses of the civil government, for which the country has to thank those arbitrary resolutions of the Legislative Council, and which they will have to rescind, or my name shall no more be Canada. I entreat of you to do all in your power, to give facility to the wheels of government; but let not the inconveniences, and sufferings of individuals, of the country, or of the public service, although endeavoured to be forced upon your consideration as motives, or as menaces, for your departing from your rights, weigh with you to sacrifice one iota of those rights, so dear to you, to me, and to all our fellow-subjects, throughout the wide extent of the British empire. A full statement of the last years expenditure is laid before you, and you are called upon to provide for the estimate also of the current year, upon the principles stated in the Governor's message of the 6th February last. Provide for them liberally, with due regard to the exigencies of the public service, and to the resources of the country; but beware the snake in the grass, and resolutely resist those principles alluded to, which will lead you to the baseful and unconstitutional grant of monies, for the king's life. Be neither intimidated nor cajoled into any compromise of your and my inestimable rights; it is my money that you grant; you hold the purse-strings, and of right hold them; and to you I trust with the full confidence of a grateful heart, ever to hold them. For my part, I am prepared to say that I am willing to suffer any extremity or distress, rather than give up this essential right. No people, no nation, can submit to more privation and hardship, when need be, and the trial comes, than my Canadians. Let us be spared the trial by your patriotism, and firmness; but should it come, *we will abide by you, suffer with you, and triumph with you.*

If you are permitted sufficient time, and are not cut short in your deliberations, by a passionate prorogation, pay attention to the financial accounts submitted to you, and bring them, if possible, to a clear and final arrangement.