

The New Dominion Monthly.

VOL. IV.

APRIL, 1869.

No. 1.

Original.

1837—AND MY CONNECTION WITH IT.

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Born in St. Andrews, Province of New Brunswick, I am of a "good Tory," and not of a Revolutionary stock. My father's father, a Boston merchant, sacrificed his all for the Royal cause, and left for Halifax with General Gage, when Boston was evacuated, in 1776. My mother's mother emigrated from Portsmouth to New Brunswick, with a daughter married to Captain Storrow, of the British army, from whom my name was taken. She was a "Wentworth," cousin to John Wentworth (afterwards Sir John, Governor of Nova Scotia), the last Royal Governor of New Hampshire; niece to Sir Benning, his predecessor; and granddaughter to John Wentworth, who preceded him. These three "Wentworths"—father, son, and grandson,—having governed New Hampshire for more than forty years.

When, at fifteen years of age, I came to Montreal, in the year 1818, I was already a politician from much reading of newspapers; but forming my ideas of what was right in men and things mostly from the lessons contained in "Plutarch's Lives." In the same year the Parliament of Lower Canada was for the first time called upon to make provision for the "Civil List," which included the payment of all provincial salaries, in accordance with an offer made in 1810.

In those days there was no "Responsible Government" in the colonies, and no Colonial Ministry. Each had a House of Assembly elected by the people, a Legislative Council appointed for life by the Crown, and a Governor, who was some old military officer left on the hands of the

Home Ministry by the Peace of 1815, and who knew little of governing beyond the word of command. The Executive Council, responsible nowhere, and to nobody, was a mere council of advice. That in Lower Canada became a controlling power. The representatives of the people could debate and vote, but there were no means, as now, of carrying out their decisions.

Our Parliament had at this time existed for nearly thirty years, with nominally all the powers of the British House of Commons; but in the long period when our insufficient revenue required that a large portion of the "Civil List," or expenditure for provincial purposes, should be paid from the Military Chest—that is, the British Treasury, through the Commissariat—the Assembly could hardly question the expenditure, or its particular distribution.

I shall in this article use the words "Canadian," and "English," as the French use them, and according to our common acceptance here,—the first meaning none but *French* Canadians; and the second, all who are *not* French Canadians. With the call upon the Assembly to provide for the Civil List, came the contest that culminated in 1837. The Assembly was Canadian, and, acting upon its positive right, demanded that all the revenue of the province should be placed at its disposal. The official body, including sinecurists and pluralists, being mostly English in numbers, and more so on the pay-list, instinctively foresaw reductions for their order. The Legislative Council, not a mere obedient appendage like the Legislative Councils of our day, or the "Senate," was a vigorous English