

of the Crown upon the proposed changes in the constitution of the Legislative and Executive Councils. With a view to this result it is necessary to enquire first, whether any change ought to be made in the constitution of the Legislative Councils throughout British North America, and if so, what is the principle upon which any such alteration ought to proceed? the subordinate details may be reserved for future consideration.

It ought then to be clearly understood that so far as respects the Legislative Council, the Canadian Constitution is a mere experiment for which no precedent can be found in any other Dependency of the British Crown. Throughout the British Colonies as now existing, there is not to be found, nor does the History of the United States before the Revolution supply an example of a Legislative Body of which the Members held their Offices for Life on the nomination of the Crown, or were confined exclusively to Legislative duties. In all other Colonies the Councillors have been either elected by the People or appointed during the pleasure of the King and they have been not so much a separate Estate dividing with the Assembly the powers of Legislation, as an Executive Council for the advice and assistance of the Governor in the Administration of Public Affairs, without whose previous concurrence he could not assent to any Bill passed by the Representatives of the people. According to the original design and early practice of the Colonies, all Laws originated with the Assemblies, and