

ment of the colony, and his successor must therefore have found affairs in suspense on his arrival.

The American Government at that time began to breathe a hostile spirit towards Great-Britain; but, although an appeal was made to the loyalty of the People by his Predecessor, the Governor was averse to embody the Militia, until an emergency should at once demand and justify the measure. It does not appear that he mistrusted, on the contrary, he expressed on various occasions a confidence in the loyalty of the province; and the hereditary animosity of the Canadian to the American character, was a pledge of their fidelity, which he, however, seemed willing to avoid (from what motive it is not well understood) putting to the test.

His first measure was to convoke the House of Assembly which met at Quebec on the 29th January, 1808. Here a question was agitated, which, for the two preceding Sessions having considerably engaged the attention of the House, excited the public feeling, and ultimately led to the troubles which afterwards embittered his administration.

A Judge of the Court of King's Bench for Quebec had for the present, as well as for some former Parliaments, been returned as representative for the County of Quebec, and a doubt having been started of the eligibility of Judges for seats in the Provincial Parliament, the House divided in opinion. One party maintained it to be incompatible with the rank of a Judge, to canvass for votes in a County in which he was in the daily habit of administering justice. That many of the Elec-