

No. 37.
The Rt. Hon. C. P.
Thomson to Ld. John
Russell.
6th December 1839.

Enclosure.

committee to procure signatures to the address to Her Majesty, and to forward the same; as also to co-operate with the supporters of responsible government throughout the province, and to carry out the intentions of this meeting by correspondence or otherwise, as may be found expedient:—

Messrs. Dr. Baldwin,
Elmes Steele, J.P.
James Dallas,
Dr. Gun,
J. B. Warren, J.P.
L. Heyden,
J. H. Price,
George Ridout,
Robert J. Turner,
W. C. Keele,
John Bogart, jun.
Eli Gorham,
W. A. Baldwin,

Messrs. J. E. Small, M.P.P.
J. McIntosh, M.P.P.
Peter Secor,
Sinclair Holden,
F. Hincks,
John Comer,
William Johnson,
John N. Kilne,
Elijah Bens,
Hugh Scobie,
William Lawson,
Chancey Crosby.

We, the undersigned, after the scene of commotion and riot which lately took place at the meeting convened in the Home District for the purpose of taking the sense of the people on the affairs of the province, feeling that there is no other mode left to us of expressing our opinions than by our individual signatures, do hereby declare that our sentiments are fully embodied in the above resolutions, and request the gentlemen named in the 13th resolution to act as a committee in forwarding the objects therein described.

ADDRESS.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects, the undersigned inhabitants of the Home District, province of Upper Canada, beg permission most respectfully to approach your Majesty, and to tender the assurance of our loyalty, attachment, and devotion to your Majesty's person and government.

We, in common with the great majority of the inhabitants of this portion of your Majesty's dominions, hailed with satisfaction and joy your Majesty's appointment of the Right Hon. the Earl of Durham to be your Majesty's representative in British North America, as well as High Commissioner to inquire into the state of these important provinces, with a view to the amelioration of their political condition.

We desire to assure your Majesty that the administration of the Earl of Durham was, in our opinion, directed to secure the honour of your Majesty's throne, and to promote the welfare and happiness of your Majesty's Canadian subjects. We deem it our duty further to assure your Majesty that the report of the Earl of Durham presented to your Majesty, gives a faithful account of the political state of this province, and suggests the only remedy for the grievances by which it has been so long distracted. We have seen, with deep regret and bitter disappointment, that your Majesty's confidential advisers have publicly declared their disapprobation of the leading principle of the Earl of Durham's report—that principle which recommends that the advisers of your Majesty's representative in this province should be subjected to the same constitutional responsibility to the Provincial Parliament which the advisers of your Majesty owe to the Imperial Parliament. It is our duty solemnly to assure your Majesty that, unless this principle be clearly recognized, it will be impossible that the affairs of this province can be administered to the satisfaction either of your Majesty or of your Canadian subjects. We have heard, through the medium of the public prints, that your Majesty's responsible advisers have introduced a bill into Parliament to alter the constitution conferred upon the people of this province by a statute passed in the 31st year of the reign of your Majesty's royal predecessor, King George III. We feel assured that your Majesty's advisers will not urge the adoption of any measure calculated to deprive your Majesty's loyal subjects of their constitution, without previously submitting it for the approval of the local legislature; but we would respectfully remind your Majesty that the present House of Assembly of this province was chosen to uphold, and not to impair, the existing constitution; and that, previous to any discussion in the Representative Chamber relative to the abrogation of, or alteration in, that constitution, the present Provincial Parliament should be dissolved, and an appeal made to the people for their opinion with reference to the proposed changes.

We further assure your Majesty that the present House of Assembly of this province have not represented the opinions of the people, and do not possess the confidence of the country; and we would therefore most humbly implore your Majesty to place no reliance on its representations, but to order its immediate dissolution.

We most respectfully assure your Majesty that any measure which is not based upon the report of the Earl of Durham, and which does not clearly recognize the principle of local responsibility as therein recommended, will fail to give satisfaction to your Majesty's