

population of Lower Canada, now divided from their fellow-subjects by their national peculiarities and prejudices, and with an evident disposition, under the present system, to become a separate people, would be gradually assimilated to the British population of both provinces, and with it moulded into one people of British character, and with British feelings: all opposition of interest and cause of difference between the provinces would be for ever extinguished: an efficient Legislature, capable of conciliating the interests of the colony with those of the mother country, and providing for the security and advancing the agricultural and commercial prosperity of the country, would be established: by means of which the internal improvement of both provinces would not only be rapidly promoted, with the consequent benefits thence arising to Great Britain, but their strength and capacity to resist foreign aggression be greatly increased: the ties of connection between the colony and the parent state would be strengthened and confirmed, and a lasting dependence of the Canadas on the latter be insured to the mutual advantage of both.

Under a full conviction that these important and lasting benefits will be realised by a union of the provinces, your petitioners humbly pray that an act for uniting the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, under one Legislature, may be passed with such provisions for rendering the measure effectual as, in your wisdom, may appear expedient.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray,

&c., &c., &c.

Montreal, Dec. —, 1822.

THE END.