

word on the subject. It is unnecessary my Lord to comment on such a proceeding. Your Lordship however will do well to bear in mind that this patronage question has been the main cause of "antagonism" in Canada.

I shall trouble your Lordship with one other illustration of Lord Metcalfe's views on the subject of Responsible Government. Previous to His Excellency's appointment as Governor, as your Lordship will see by a reference to Lord Durham's report, the existence of Orange Societies had caused considerable dissatisfaction in Canada. The Liberal party had always demanded their suppression, but they had been to a certain extent countenanced by the Government. The leaders of the liberal party then in the Ministry were distinctly pledged as public men to use their endeavours to discountenance these Societies. Accordingly they recommended the same Executive action, which had been tried with so much success in Ireland by the Marquis of Normanby under the Whig administration. They recommended that in issuing commissions of the Peace notorious Orangemen should be excluded. Lord Metcalfe objected to this recommendation as of course he had a right to do. The Ex-Ministers would have been quite prepared to go to the country on the Orange question, and with Lord Metcalfe's views he ought to have forced them to that issue. But His Excellency was not then prepared for a Ministerial crisis. After a long discussion, finding that his Ministers were determined that, under their administration, Orangeism must be discountenanced, His Excellency himself suggested that if action must be taken, he would prefer that an act of Parliament should be passed. The Ministers willing to conciliate and to meet his views as far as they consistently could, yielded the point, and against their better judgment resolved to remove the grievance of Orangeism by legislation. What, my Lord, has been the result? The Ex-Ministers have been held up to the English and Canadian public as the authors of an arbitrary and unconstitutional proceeding. The bill against Orangeism was prepared and submitted to Lord Metcalfe before its introduction in the House of Assembly. Various alterations were suggested by His Excellency, and acceded to by the Ministry. The bill was at last introduced and passed both Houses by very large majorities. While it was pending before Parliament, the Private Secretary of the Governor took care to express himself in strong terms against it, as can be proved by a member of the Assembly, a supporter of the administration, whom he endeavoured to influence to vote