

APPENDIX G. G.—(*See Journal, Page 222.*)

FOURTH SESSION, THIRTEENTH PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT, 2nd VICTORIA.

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in England.) and further asserts, that the influence of the Banks "is said to be employed directly as an instrument for upholding the political supremacy of the party" (Canadian)—Your Committee happen to have the means of personally knowing, that the chartered Banks have most studiously avoided political connection with all parties.

Your Committee find introduced as one of the grievances, "that under the system at selling land pursued by the government, an individual does not receive a patent for his land, until he has paid the whole of his purchase money."—Why should a contrary course be pursued?—That is not shewn! The High Commissioner then wanders into Illinois, and gives a vivid description of the peculiar advantages to be derived by English folk, who may become domiciled in the republic. If indeed his Lordship had not qualified his opinions with the assertion that, "but few cases in which the departure of an Englishman from Upper Canada to the States, can be traced directly to any of these circumstances in particular," alluding to the British grievances before mentioned, your Committee would have supposed, that the peculiar functions of Her Majesty's High Commissioner were not those detailed in his commission, the more-especially, as these hitherto unheard of grievances are quoted, as the cause of the decreased emigration from the Parent State; and throughout the report comparisons are constantly drawn unfavourable to Her Majesty's possessions in North America.

Your Committee having exposed a few of the inconsistencies in the first pages of his Lordship's report, deem it unnecessary to enter more fully into its details, the conflicting character of which, as compared with his Lordship's other productions, is sufficiently set forth in the Report of the Committee on the state of the Province, appointed by the House of Assembly: observing, however, that his Lordship sums up the Upper Canadian grievances, in the great practical question of the Clergy Reserves. Your Honourable House has, so recently, had this question under discussion, that your Committee refrain from any commentary on his Lordship's statements regarding it, but your Committee cannot avoid observing that, however unintentional, his Lordship's remarks are evidently calculated to cast odium on the Established Church of England, which, like every other respectable body throughout the Colony, has been constantly assailed by the party mis-named Reformers.

Adverting, now, to his Lordship's great panacea for all political disorders, "Responsible Government," your Committee beg to observe, that a liberal-minded Englishman, sincerely admiring the great principles of the British Constitution, would naturally be desirous of extending them, theoretically and practically, to all people living under the dominion of the Crown; and, at the first view, would be apt to ascribe any evils which were found to exist, in any portion of the Empire, to the absence of those political institutions, which he is bound to uphold in the administration of public affairs, in the metropolitan and supreme government.

It is in this manner we must account for the adoption, at first sight, by many statesmen, of the principle, that the officers administering the government should be under the same popular control in Colonies, as the like persons necessarily are in those societies, where powers of supreme legislation, by means of popular administration, are found to exist; but it is to the practical impossibility of preserving Colonial relations on such a plan, that we must attribute the fact, that notwithstanding all the changes produced by the struggles of party, or the alternations of conservative or liberal politics in England, no statesman, armed with the authority, has, as yet, attempted to introduce the principle of responsibility of government to the people, into the Colonial system.

After an attentive and disinterested consideration of this subject, your Committee are led to the conclusion, that the adoption of the plan proposed by the Earl of Durham, in which this is the prominent feature, must lead to the overthrow of the great Colonial Empire of England.

The control exercised by the popular will, over the administration of affairs in Great Britain, and over the choice of persons by whom the government shall be conducted, is founded, not upon theory, but upon the practical necessity of carrying on a government, according to the will of that power in the Constitution, which, right or wrong, can most effectually control it. Simple responsibility of the executive functionaries, and their liability to answer for misdemeanors or mistakes, existed in England long before the popular branch of the legislature assumed its present powers; and, in fact, the trial and punishment of Ministers, or in other words, their actual responsibility was much more frequently exhibited when the Sovereign