

The primitive form of government among most, if not all peoples, was through one man—whether he were Tribal Chief, King, or other leader. All the powers of Government were vested in him and he exercised them himself.

With respect to the internal affairs of his tribe or people, he was the governor and the executive and law-making authority; in administering justice, he was the court and judge; in directing war, offensive or defensive, with other tribes or peoples, he was the commander in chief.

As time went on and affairs multiplied, the King could not personally attend to everything, and he had to secure the assistance of others. In relation to Government these were called "Ministers," a word derived from "minor" meaning something less, having less authority than the King himself. In the administration of justice they were called "Judges," but the King himself retained the executive, legislative and judicial authority.

From this primitive condition there grew up the present constitution of the great British Empire, the principles of which are found in the constitutions of Canada and the other Dominions. The basis of it is the executive and legislative and judicial authority of the King, though the exercise of this authority now is surrounded by conditions and limitations which were unknown in earlier times, and which *de facto* but not *de jure* have transferred the executive authority to his Ministers, the legislative authority to his Parliament, and the judicial authority to his Courts and Judges.

The B. N. A. Act

By the British North America Act, the Parliament of Canada is declared to consist of the Queen (now of course the King), an Upper House called the Senate, and the House of Commons. The appointments to the