

wane, and for appointing others more congenial to what he may conceive to be the wishes of the majority of the people. It is of course superfluous to add that the term of office of every ministry must ever and invariably be determined by the majority of the Assembly, and by them alone, it being always left to the prudence, discretion, skill, and tact of the reigning ministry, and to the admonishing signs of the times, to determine, whether a mere numerical majority can justify their further retention of office.

Such is a plain exposition of Responsible Government as adapted to colonial administrations, and which is perfectly compatible with the subordinate relation of the Colonies to the Parent State, and the general responsibility of the Representative of the Sovereign to the Home Government; for when he follows the advice of his Colonial Cabinet, which will in general be almost thrust upon him under the working of the new system recognized in the Colony by his Superiors, it is absurd to suppose that he is not relieved, *pro tanto*, from all further responsibility in regard to acts of a purely local character,—notwithstanding the idle vapourings about *imperium in imperio*—colonial dependency,—responsibility of the Governor to the authorities of Downing Street, &c. &c.

For the information of that class who knit their brows at the mere mention of the term “Responsible” in any shape, I shall make a small extract from a work already more than once alluded to, from the pen of the late lamented ANDREW STUART, Esquire, an eminent member of the Lower Canada bar, and for many years a member of the Provincial Parliament, a man distinguished by his unceasing advocacy of a liberal and enlightened policy, highly esteemed by all parties in the Province, and who, as a statesman or a jurist, has not left his equal behind him.

(“Review of the Proceedings of the Legislature of Lower Canada in the session of 1831. p. 136”)