

The events of the late war have drawn closer the bonds which connect Great Britain and the Canadas; these Provinces have been preserved to her under circumstances of peculiar difficulty. At the epoch of the declaration of war, this Country was destitute both of Troops and of Money; and your Excellency was at the head of a people in whom it was pretended, that half a century of repose had extinguished all Military Spirit. Superior to prejudices which had but too generally prevailed, your Excellency has derived from the devotion of that Brave and Loyal, yet unjustly calumniated People, resources sufficient for disconcerting the plans of Conquest devised by a foe at once numerous and elated with confidence.—Reinforcements were subsequently received; and the blood of the Sons of Canada has flowed mingled with that of the brave Soldiers sent to its defence. Multiplied proofs of the efficacious and powerful protection of the Mother Country, and of the inviolable Loyalty of the People of this Province, strengthen their claim to the preservation and free exercise of all the benefits which are secured to them by their existing Constitution and Laws.—The pursuits of war are about to be succeeded by those of Peace, it is by the increase of its population, agriculture and commerce, that the possession of this Colony may become of importance to Great Britain. The improvement of internal Communications having a close connexion with the progress of the prosperity of the Colony. It was with lively satisfaction that the House of Assembly heard your Excellency recommend to their consideration that subject. To second those views, and the desire so natural to your Excellency, of improving a Country which you have so essentially contributed to preserve to the Empire. His Majesty's dutiful Subjects, the Commons of Lower Canada have voted large appropriations in order to facilitate the opening of a Canal from Montreal to Lachine, to assist in the opening of new Roads, and to acquire such information as may enable them hereafter to follow up and extend that plan of improvements.

The said Bills were then delivered to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, who read the Titles of the said Bills, as follows:

- “ An Act to grant New Duties to His Majesty, to supply the wants of
 “ the Province.”
- “ An Act to grant an Annuity to such Militiamen as were wounded
 “ during the late war with the United States of America, and to
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