

would cause great discontent in Upper Canada, but even in that part they were very powerful, and although they met with checks, particularly in Hastings and North York, yet they generally carried the elections, and commanded a large majority in the House of Assembly. We must do justice, and accord merit where it is due, the new ministry adopted a system of managing the public revenues well calculated to cherish and improve the resources of the Province, its income increased under their direction; a more beneficial surveillance than had hitherto existed was imposed on the different District officers, and the official duties of the departments were ably executed, and even they who differed most widely from them saw the great advantages of a strong over a weak government.

Many blamed Mr. Draper for having resigned when he did, in place of dissolving, but it is a question whether a dissolution would have benefitted his position. That gentleman, however, fully justified the step he had taken, and it certainly cannot be attributed to him as a want of political perception that he was too sanguine as to its imagined results; the truth appears to be that his leadership was more tolerated than supported by the party which had long held power in Upper Canada, and which, from the very introduction of the Union resolutions in 1839, had foreseen a change in its position. Mr. Draper certainly was not supported as he should have been; his Cabinet was not an united one, and on resigning in 1842, he merely anticipated a necessity.

His resignation, and the consequent change of ministry were of far greater consequence than either party at the time could have imagined, and were followed by results which neither had anticipated. The unity of a till then compact and powerful party was destroyed, and the union of the purely Lower Canadian French party with the reformers of the Upper Province was consummated.

Lord Sydenham had left the foundation of a noble edifice, but the time to criticize the superstructure has not arrived; that time is, however, drawing nigh, our daily advances towards republican formula of government, if not towards republican principles, are hastening the work, for since the 13th of September, 1842, there has not been one breathing spell in our descent.

LORD METCALFE.

Sir Charles Metcalfe was sworn in Governor General of Canada, on the 29th of March, 1843. To the Province he was totally unknown, very few had heard more than his name, if we except those who had served in India. Parties were at a loss how to receive him, the reformers looked with a little natural suspicion on a nominee of Sir Robert Peel, while the Conservatives, smarting under the rebuffs they had received