

had generated—namely, that he was appointed to carry into effect those reforms for which the Assembly had prayed. Not long after, however, on the Council's making an attempt to exercise what had always been deemed the function of that body—namely, to advise the Governor—Sir Francis turned round upon them, and told them, that he being responsible, and not they, he should not for the future consult them. Hereupon the members of the Council resigned in a body.

If the matter had stopped here there would at least have been no inconsistency in the proceeding. But no sooner had the persons who enjoyed the confidence of the people resigned than the Governor called to his Executive Council a new set of men, nearly all of whom were of the Ultra Tory party, and moreover extremely obnoxious to the people. This at once destroyed all confidence in Sir Francis Head's professions of reform, and loud expressions of dissatisfaction poured in from all quarters. The House of Assembly, the Mayor and Corporation, the citizens of Toronto, the Alliance (an extensive reform society), all carried addresses to the Governor, remonstrating in the strongest terms against the course he had pursued, and declaring their want of confidence in the men he had chosen. In his replies he merely adhered with the most pertinacious obstinacy to his first point, declaring that an Executive Council, as it had been understood, was no part of the constitution; that he alone was responsible; and that therefore he alone would hold the power. If this be really Sir Francis Head's opinion, why appoint a Council at all? To appoint a Tory Council was an uncalled-for insult to the people.

In his answer to the address of the citizens of Toronto, Sir Francis Head commenced by stating, that as he presumed several among those who addressed him were of the industrious classes, he should adapt his language to their capacity, and speak in the plainest manner of which he was capable. Now, under any circumstances, this would have evinced great want of tact. If it was Sir Francis's opinion that other than plain language would have been unsuited to those whom he addressed, he was quite right in adopting 'plain language;' but to tell them that he should do so was in the highest degree injudicious. It turned out, however, that Sir Francis Head's condescension was quite out of place. The 'industrious' citizens treated Sir Francis with a rejoinder, which must have interfered considerably with his self-complacency. They tell him, that being sensible of the importance of knowledge, they have, 'by their own efforts and at their own expense, so far successfully laboured, as to be able to appreciate *good writing* and *fair reasoning*.' They then, 'lest his Excellency should doubt their sufficient apprehension of the mat-