

No. 8.

Two Legislative Councillors, puisne judges of the court of King's Bench for the district of Quebec (Messrs. Kerr and Bowen), have abstained from sitting and voting in the Legislative Council, on being informed of the determination of His Majesty not to appoint puisne judges to be Legislative Councillors in future.

The following additions have been made to the Legislative Council subsequent to the period above referred to, namely,

Messrs. the Honourable	
1. S. Hatt.	Appointed during the administration of Sir James Kempt.
2. D. B. Viger *.	
3. Louis Guy *.	
4. George Moffatt.	
1. R. de St. Ours *.	Appointed during the administration of Lord Aylmer.
2. Peter M'Gill.	
3. John Molson.	
4. M. P. de Sales Laterrière *.	
5. F. X. Malhiot *.	
6. J. Desaulles *.	
7. B. Joliette *.	
8. P. de Rocheblave *.	
9. R. Harwood.	
10. A. Couillard *.	
11. Horatio Gates.	
12. R. Jones.	
13. J. Baxter.	
14. Frs. Quirouet *.	

In all 18 ; of whom 10 (their names are marked by an asterisk) are of French origin, or as they are usually styled in this province (unhappily, I think, as tending to keep up national distinction), French Canadians, to distinguish them from Canadians of a different origin.

Not one of those 18 gentlemen holds office, or is in any way connected with or dependent upon the Government of the Province.

The actual state of the Legislative Council is as follows : it consists of 35 Members, taken from the most opulent and respectable classes of society, of various origin, in different parts of the province, of whom seven only hold office, including their speaker (the chief justice of the Province), and the Lord Bishop of Quebec, who is rarely present at the deliberations of the Council.

It would be difficult perhaps to find in any British Colony a legislative body more independent of the Crown than the Legislative Council of Lower Canada ; and so far am I from possessing, as the King's representative, any influence there, that I will not conceal that I have on more than one occasion regretted the course adopted by the council. But whilst I make this confession I will not deny but I have, on the contrary, much satisfaction in avowing that I repose great confidence in that branch of the Colonial Legislature ; it is a confidence derived from my knowledge of the upright, independent and honourable character of the great majority of those who compose it, and of their firm and unalterable attachment to His Majesty's person and Government, and to the constitution of the colony as by law established.

My sentiments regarding the present Legislative Council are not of recent date, or displayed now to serve the purpose of the moment ; they are already recorded more fully in my despatch of the 27th of March 1833, upon the Address of the House of Assembly to His Majesty of the 20th of March 1833, to render the Legislative Council elective, or to do away with it altogether ; and to that despatch I now take the liberty of referring.

## 2. The Executive Council.

In enumerating the changes which have taken place in the Executive Council, I will refer, as in the case of the Legislative Council, to the date of the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons on the affairs of Canada.

The following are the changes alluded to as having occurred subsequent to that period.

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