

for the salaries of certain officials, one of them being the lieutenant-governor, whose salary at that time was \$17,500 a year. The surplus of the casual and territorial revenue, amounting then to the large sum of £150,000 sterling, was also handed over to the province at the same time. Thus a very important step was gained in the direction of responsible government.

Another important step towards responsible government was the change which was made in 1833 in the constitution of the council. Prior to that date the council performed legislative as well as executive functions; but in 1833 the British government came to the conclusion that those functions should be separate, and accordingly two councils were appointed, one which was known as the legislative council, which was abolished about ten years ago, and the other the executive council, which acted as the adviser of the governor, and which exists to the present time. The old executive council, however, was a very different body from the present one, because it was not properly in touch with the people; but this beginning made it possible to effect improvements in its make-up, which were impossible of realization so long as the council had legislative functions. It enabled a member of the House of Assembly to belong to the executive council, which was not possible before. The new legislative council consisted of ten members; while the new executive council numbered five members, of whom three were a quorum. This change was not brought about as the result of any particular agitation in New Brunswick at that time, but in consequence of changes of a similar character which were made in the constitutions of all the councils of British North America.

The imperial customs establishment was another grievance which had been long agitated against, but which existed until the year 1848. It seems very absurd that the duties imposed on goods coming into the province of New Brunswick had to be collected by two sets of custom house officers, one set appointed by the imperial authority and the other by the provincial government. The imperial customs establishment seemed to be kept up merely for the purpose of giving a few men very high salaries. By a return which was placed before the legislature in 1828, it was shown that the imperial duties collected at the port of St. John in that year amounted to £15,231; of which sum £4,135, or almost one-third, was paid out in salaries. At St. Andrews, the duties collected amounted to £6,007, of which £2,382 was paid in