

**To His Excellency Sir John Colbourne, K. C. B., Lieutenant Governor
of the Province of Upper Canada, and Major General Command-
ing His Majesty's Forces therein.**

May it please Your Excellency,

WHILST we, the undersigned inhabitants of York and its vicinity, regret extremely that our first welcome offered to Your Excellency should be embittered by complaint and prayer, and while it is far from our disposition or intention to call on Your Excellency, at the moment of your arrival, to interpose, in any manner, with the proceedings of the Courts of Justice, even with the most splendid prerogative of your office, "the administration of judgment in mercy;" yet, feeling ourselves disregarded and our rights endangered by many late proceedings of the Provincial administration, and amongst those proceedings, as especially worthy of notice on this occasion, by the late arbitrary and unconstitutional removal of a Judge highly and justly esteemed by us—by the destruction of one Independent Press—by a violence, almost burglarious, by Clerks, relations and dependents of men in office and power—by the silencing another Press by means of unconstitutional security, exacted of its editor, before conviction of any fault—and now, by the virtual suppression of a third Independent Press, by a most severe and disproportioned sentence, passed on its editor, Francis Collins, for a libel—a sentence fraught with a measure of punishment against the temperance and moderation expressed by the jury who convicted him, and against the spirit of the expressive charter of British Rights, that great pledge of safety to the subject, "that no man shall be fined to his ruin." We, the undersigned, pressed by such grievances, entreat that Your Excellency will please, as speedily as possible, to convene the Provincial Parliament, to whom we may make our complaints; and by which course, Your Excellency may, through that legitimate and constitutional channel, arrive at the knowledge of the true state of the country, a thing not attainable by Your Excellency through the advisers of Your Excellency's misguided predecessor.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.