

That, this Report was debated, sustained, and stood among Orders of the Day, for further debate, till the 16th September, when it was unanimously Resolved, that, a copy should be communicated to the Governor General. That, three weeks afterwards, the Administrator of the Government caused to be paid, to Your Petitioner, the sum of fifty pounds, in part of expenses, in compliance with the recommendation of Your Honourable House.

That, Your Petitioner then resolved to proceed to England, there to lay the whole matter before the Imperial Parliament; and, with that intent, applied for office copies of necessary papers, which he procured, all but copies of two affidavits, then missing.

That, Your Petitioner went to Quebec, for embarkation, hoping to see the Governor General, and be assured by him that copies of the said affidavits would be forthcoming when required, &c. But, finding that His Excellency would first arrive at Kingston, Your Petitioner returned to that place, where, to his astonishment, he was served with a copy of a Report of a Committee of the Executive Council, withstanding the opinions of Your Honourable House; and thus, it became necessary that he should remain in America till the Provincial Parliament was again in Session.

In the month of September, 1842, Your Petitioner had a Petition presented to Your Honourable House, complaining of irregularity on the part of Crown Ministers, and praying for enquiry into the same.

That Petition was referred to a Committee, which waived its only object, and recommended that a pension should be granted to Your Petitioner, "*in consideration of his losses and sufferings*," which he could not accept, as that recommendation conflicted with the Report of a 1841. In fact, it has subjected your Petitioner to unspeakable distress; certainly, not intentionally, for Your Petitioner is assured, that it proceeded from the greatest kindness. It put an end to all hope of appeal to the Imperial Parliament, and furnished excuse for denying Your Petitioner any allowance, recommended by Your Honourable House, to be made to him, "while defending the rights of a British subject."

The Report of 1841 was well digested, and regularly debated. Never was there a question before Your Honourable House, wherein the dignity of the Crown was so deeply involved; never were responsible Ministers so pledged to watchfulness, as when this question was debated. If aught could be said in behalf of ill used power, then was the time to say it. But, in fact, no plea could be put in, which could not instantly be repelled. Not a word, in opposition, fell from Ministers of the Crown, on that occasion. On the contrary, all acquiesced, at every stage; and joined in the unanimous vote for addressing the Governor General.

After business was thus finished, what right had Ministers of the Crown, to draw up a Report in contradiction of the opinions of Your Honourable House? Sir Richard Jackson had previously declared to your Petitioner, that he would not enter on the consideration of the question, because "he was only in the temporary Administration of the Government," and Your Petitioner had never expected that he would do any thing of the kind. To Your Petitioner, first and last, it has appeared a result of treachery and clandestine interference;—treachery on the part of the Crown Ministers, and interference of some party interested in the issue: nor can Your Petitioner imagine any subject more imperatively demanding inquiry. To him, the Report of the Committee of the Executive Council seems a tissue of unwarrantable assertions, and fallacious arguments; and, he believes it was served upon him, in the hope, that he would succumb, or perish in unequal combat.

Your Petitioner returned to Canada, as a peace maker and for benevolent objects. He was encouraged to remain, and Petition the Legislature, by the unbounded kindness of the inhabitants. Your Honourable House has ever manifested, towards him, the warmest sympathy; and, his saddest reflection is, that, stern duty has held him up as regardless and ungrateful. Indeed, duty to the rights and respectability of Your Honourable House has thrust him into this cruel dilemma.

Since 1841, Your Petitioner, though labouring under every disadvantage, has never, for a moment, relaxed exertions in this great cause,—the cause of truth and justice, which is equally yours and his;—a cause which must now or never be determined, as he is fast sinking beneath age and infirmity.

In 1842, your Committee pleaded want of time for a full discussion of the subject. Now, there is need of no such plea;—now, Your Honourable House can investigate every circumstance, withstand every assault, and arrive at a satisfactory end.

Your Petitioner has no doubt whatever, that Your Honourable House can sustain the Report of 1841, against that of the Executive Council; and, that opposing forces may be viewed at once, he will annex, hereto, a copy of that Report.

He now entreats, that the whole of these premises may be taken into the serious consideration of Your Honourable House.

And, as in duty bound, he will ever pray.

ROBERT F. GOURLAY.

MONTREAL, April 2nd, 1846.