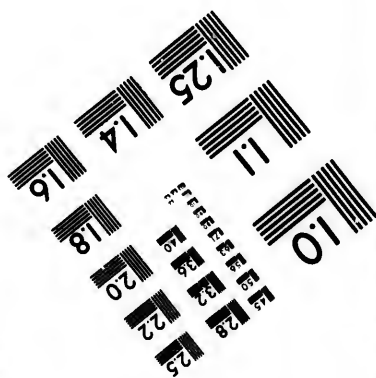
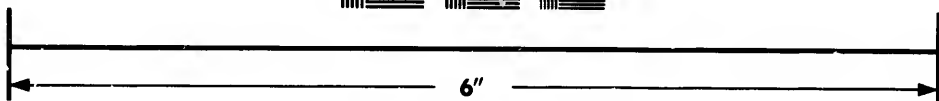
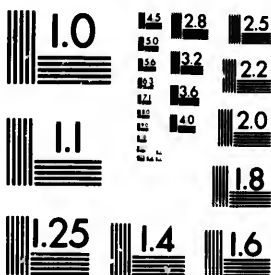


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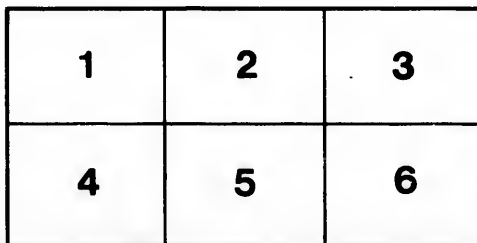
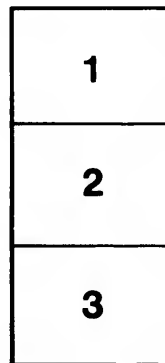
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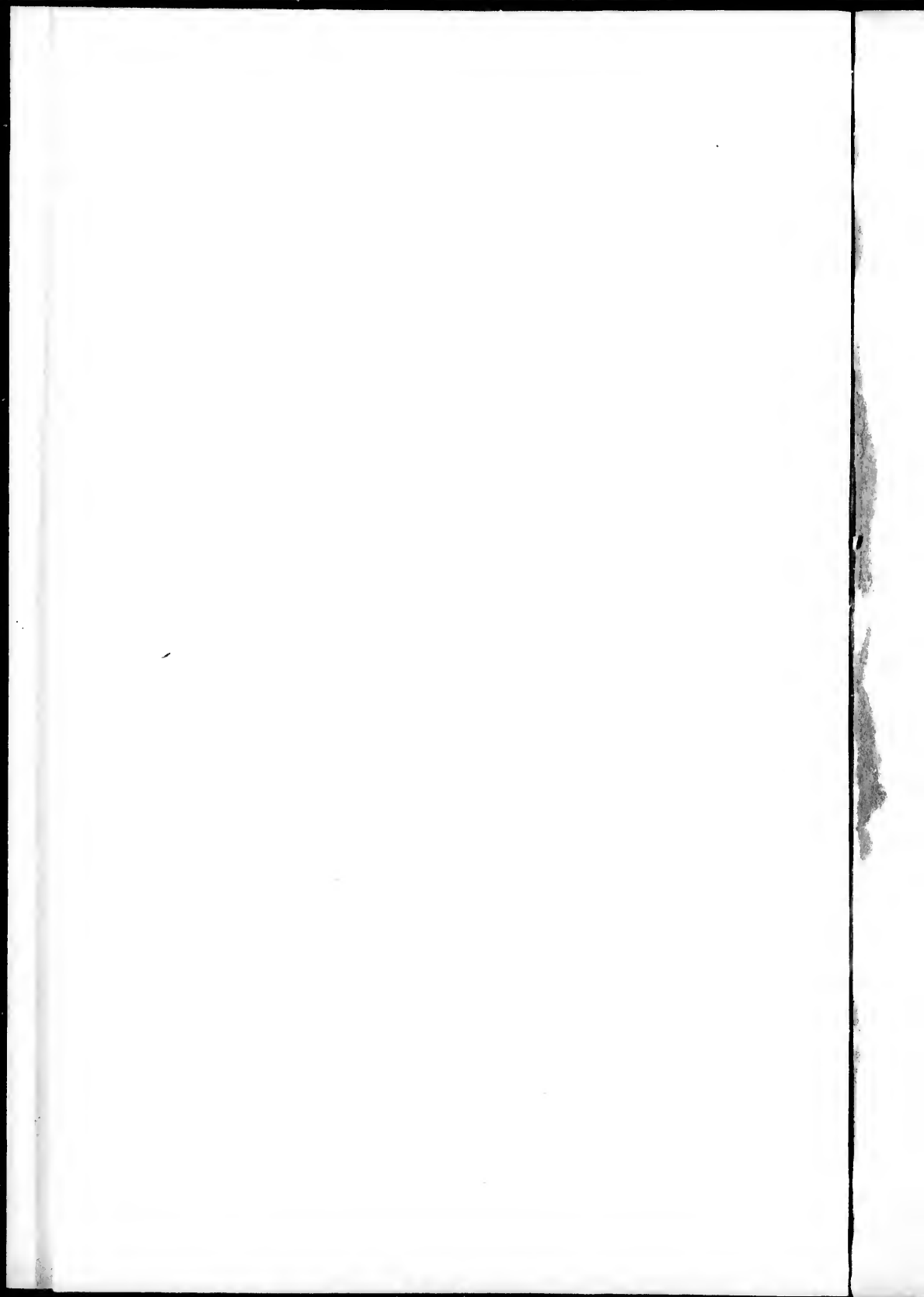
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THE
ADDRESSES

PRESENTED TO

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE RIGHT HON. SIR CHAS. T. METCALFE, BART., G.C.B.,

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, &c. &c.,

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

RESIGNATION OF HIS LATE ADVISERS;

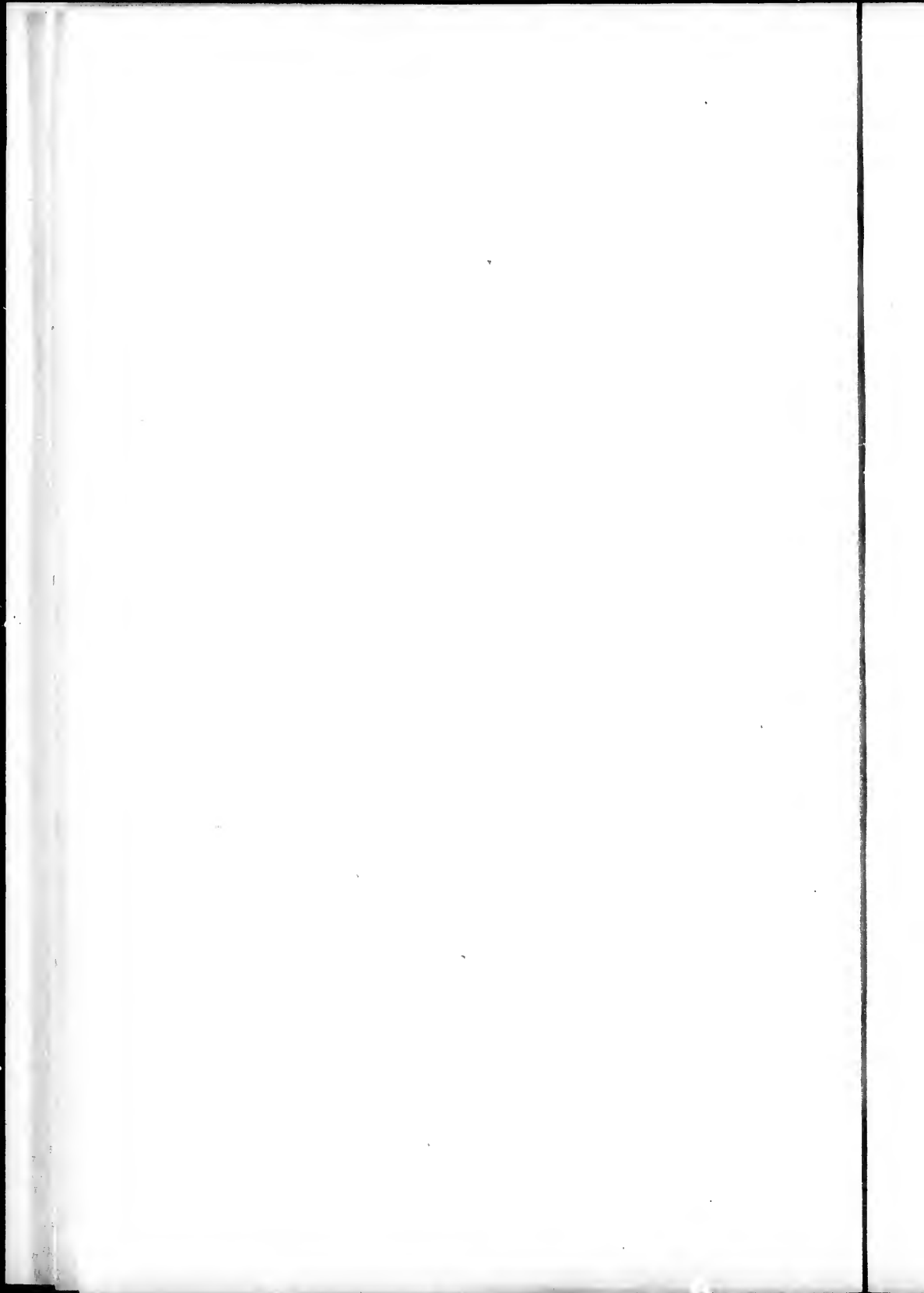
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1844.



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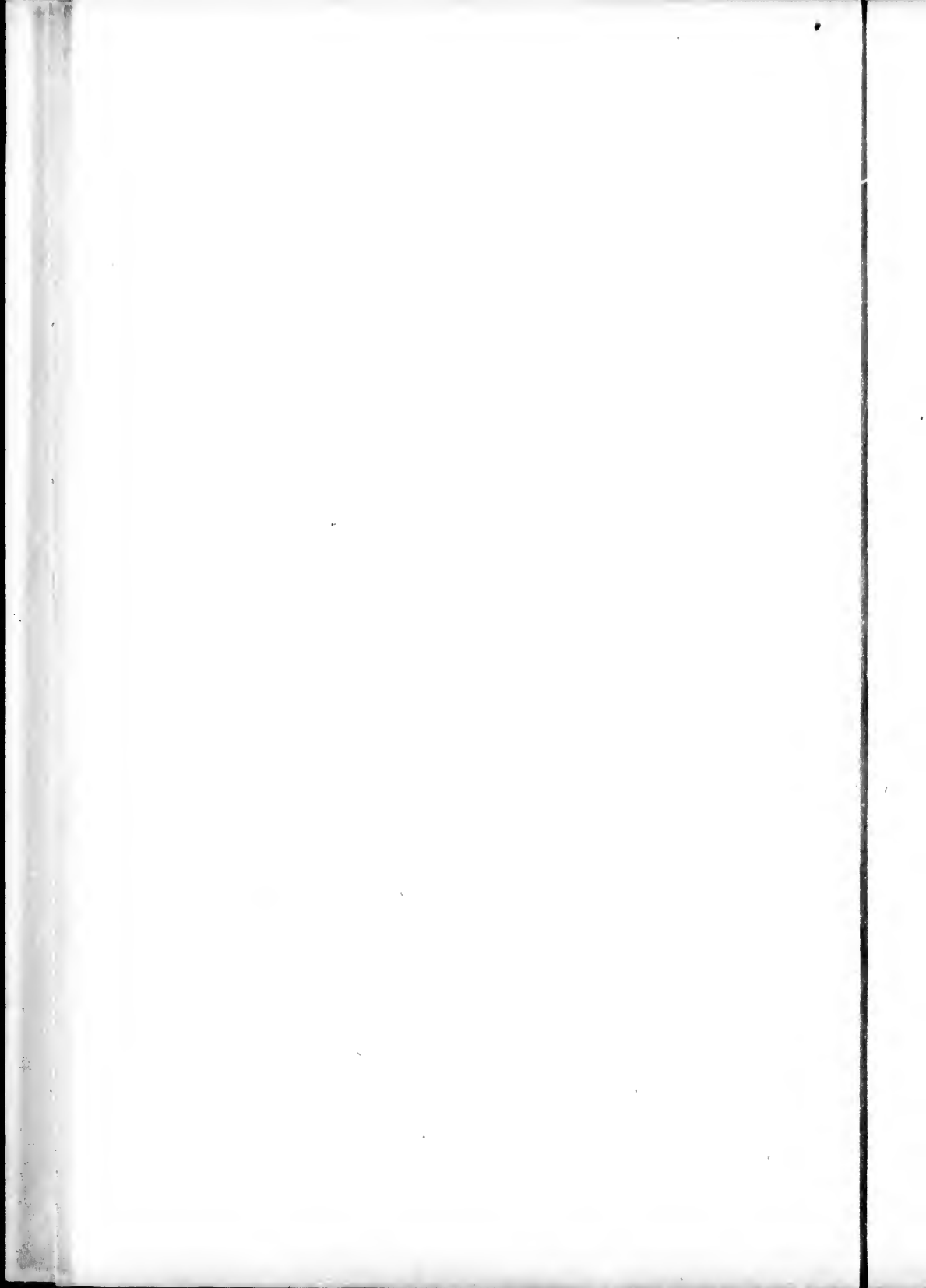
THE RIGHT HON. SIR CHAS. T. METCALFE, BART., G.C.B.,

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, &C. &C.,

BY HIS MOST OBEDIENT

HUMBLE SERVANTS,

The Publishers.



MESSAGE

From His Excellency the Governor General to the Legislative Assembly of Canada, presented Friday, 1st December, 1843.

C. T. METCALFE.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL transmits to the Legislative Assembly, in reply to their Address of yesterday's date, Copies of all communications that have passed between him and those Members of the late Executive Council who have tendered their resignation, on the subject of those resignations.

Government House,
Kingston, 30th November, 1843.

Mr. Lafontaine, in compliance with the request of the Governor General, and in behalf of himself and his late colleagues, who have felt it to be their duty to tender a resignation of office, states, for His Excellency's information, the substance of the explanation which they propose to offer in their places in Parliament.

They have avowedly taken office upon the principles of responsibility to the Representatives of the People in Parliament, and with a full recognition on their parts of the following resolutions, introduced into the Legislative Assembly with the knowledge and sanction of Her Majesty's Representative in this Province, on the 3rd September, 1841.

“ That the head of the Executive Government of the Province, being within the limits of his Government the Representative of the Sovereign, is responsible to the Imperial authority alone, but that, nevertheless, the management of our local affairs can only be conducted by him,

“ by and with the assistance, counsel and information of “ subordinate officers in the Province,” and, “ that in order “ to preserve between the different branches of the Provincial Parliament that harmony, which is essential to the “ peace, welfare, and good government of the Province, the “ chief advisers of the Representative of the Sovereign, constituting a Provincial Administration under him, ought “ to be men possessed of the confidence of the Representatives “ of the People, thus affording a guarantee that the well “ understood wishes and interests of the People, which Our “ Gracious Sovereign has declared shall be the rule of the “ Provincial Government, will on all occasions be faithfully “ represented and advocated.”

They have lately understood that His Excellency took a widely different view of the position, duties, and responsibilities of the Executive Council, from that under which they accepted office, and through which they have been enabled to conduct the Parliamentary business of the Government, sustained by a large majority of the popular branch of the Legislature.

Had the difference of opinion between His Excellency and themselves, and, as they have reason to believe, between His Excellency and the Parliament and People of Canada generally, been merely theoretical, the Members of the late Executive Council might, and would, have felt it to be their duty to avoid any possibility of collision, which might have a tendency to disturb the tranquil and amicable relations which apparently subsisted between the Executive Government and the Provincial Parliament. But the difference of opinion has led not merely to appointments to office against their advice, but to appointments, and proposals to make appointments, of which they were not informed in any manner, until all opportunity of offering advice respecting them had passed by, and to a determination on the part of His Excellency to reserve for the expression of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon a Bill, introduced into the Provincial Parliament with His Excellency's knowledge and consent as a Government mea-

sure, without an opportunity being given to the Members of the Executive Council to state the probability of such a reservation. They therefore felt themselves in the anomalous position of being, according to their own avowals and solemn public pledges, responsible for all the acts of the Executive Government to Parliament, and at the same time not only without the opportunity of offering advice respecting these Acts, but without the knowledge of their existence, until informed of them from private and unofficial sources.

When the Members of the late Executive Council offered their humble remonstrances to His Excellency on this condition of public affairs, His Excellency not only frankly explained the difference of opinion existing between him and the Council, but stated that from the time of his arrival in the country he had observed an antagonism between him and them on the subject, and notwithstanding that the Members of Council repeatedly and distinctly explained to His Excellency, that they considered him free to act contrary to their advice, and only claimed an opportunity of giving such advice, and of knowing, before others, His Excellency's intentions, His Excellency did not in any manner remove the impression left upon their minds by his avowal, that there was an antagonism between him and them, and a want of that cordiality and confidence, which would enable them, in their respective stations, to carry on public business to the satisfaction of His Excellency or of the Country.

The want of this cordiality and confidence had already become a matter of public rumour; and public opinion not only extended it to acts, upon which there were apparent grounds for difference of opinion, but to all measures of government involving political principles. His Excellency, on the one hand, was supposed to be coerced by his Council into a course of policy which he did not approve of, and the Council were made liable to the accusation of assuming the tone and position of responsible advisers of the government, without, in fact, asserting the right of being consulted thereupon.

While His Excellency disavowed any intention of altering the course of administration of public affairs, which he found on his arrival in Canada, he did not disguise his opinion that these affairs would be more satisfactorily managed by and through the Governor himself, without any necessity of concord amongst the members of the Executive Council, or obligation on their part to defend, or support in Parliament the acts of the Governor. To this opinion of His Excellency, as one of theory, the members of the Executive Council might not have objected; but when, on Saturday last, they discovered that it was the real ground of all their differences with His Excellency, and of the want of confidence and cordiality between His Excellency and the Council since his arrival, they felt it impossible to continue to serve Her Majesty as Executive Councillors for the affairs of this province, consistently with their duty to Her Majesty, or to His Excellency, or with their public and often repeated pledges in the Provincial Parliament, if His Excellency should see fit to act upon his opinion of their functions and responsibilities.

Daley's Hotel,
27th November, 1843.

The Governor General observes with regret, in the explanation which the gentlemen who have resigned their seats in the Executive Council propose to offer in their places in Parliament, a total omission of the circumstances which he regards as forming the real grounds of their resignation; and as this omission may have proceeded from their not considering themselves at liberty to disclose those circumstances, it becomes necessary that he should state them.

On Friday, Mr. Lafontaine and Mr. Baldwin came to the Government House, and after some other matters of business, and some preliminary remarks as to the cause of their proceeding, demanded of the Governor General that he should agree to make no appointment, and no offer of an appoint-

ment, without previously taking the advice of the Council; that the lists of candidates should, in every instance, be laid before the Council; that they should recommend any others at discretion, and that the Governor General, in deciding after taking their advice, should not make any appointment prejudicial to their influence. In other words, that the patronage of the Crown should be surrendered to the Council for the purchase of parliamentary support; for, if the demand did not mean that, it meant nothing, as it cannot be imagined that the mere form of taking advice without regarding it was the process contemplated.

The Governor General replied that he would not make any such stipulation, and could not degrade the character of his office, nor violate his duty, by such a surrender of the prerogative of the Crown.

He appealed to the number of appointments made by him on the recommendation of the Council, or the members of it in their departmental capacity, and to instances in which he had abstained from conferring appointments on their opponents, as furnishing proofs of the great consideration which he had evinced towards the Council in the distribution of the patronage of the Crown.

He at the same time objected, as he always had done, to the exclusive distribution of patronage with party views, and maintained the principle that office ought, in every instance, to be given to the man best qualified to render efficient service to the state; and where there was no such pre-eminence, he asserted his right to exercise his discretion.

He understood from Messrs. Lafontaine and Baldwin, that their continuance in office depended on his final decision with regard to their demand; and it was agreed that at the Council to be assembled the next day, that subject should be fully discussed.

He accordingly met the Council on Saturday, convinced that they would resign, as he could not recede from the resolution which he had formed, and the same subject became the principal topic of discussion.

Three or more distinct propositions were made to him, over and over again, sometimes in different terms, but always aiming at the same purpose, which, in his opinion, if accomplished, would have been a virtual surrender into the hands of the Council of the prerogative of the Crown; and on his uniformly replying to those propositions in the negative, his refusal was each time followed by "then we must resign," or words to that purport, from one or more of the Council.

After the discussion of this question at so much length, being, as he has hitherto conceived, the one on which the resignation of the Council rested, he is astonished at finding that it is now ascribed to an alleged difference of opinion on the theory of responsible government.

In the course of the conversations which, both on Friday and Saturday, followed the explicit demand made by the Council regarding the patronage of the Crown, that demand being based on the construction put by some of the gentlemen on the meaning of responsible government, different opinions were elicited on the abstract theory of that still undefined question, as applicable to a colony,—a subject on which considerable difference of opinion is known every where to prevail; but the Governor General during those conversations protested against its being supposed that he is practically adverse to the working of the system of responsible government, which has been here established; which he has hitherto pursued without deviation, and to which it is fully his intention to adhere.

The Governor General subscribes entirely to the resolution of the Legislative Assembly of the 3rd September, 1841, and considers any other system of government but that which recognises responsibility to the people and to the Representative Assembly, as impracticable in this province.

No man is more satisfied that all government exists solely for the benefit of the people; and he appeals confidently to his uniform conduct here and elsewhere in support of this assertion.

If, indeed, by responsible government the gentlemen of the late Council mean that the Council is to be supreme, and the authority of the Governor a nullity, then he cannot agree with them, and must declare his dissent from that perversion of the acknowledged principle.

But if they mean that responsible government, as established in this colony, is to be worked out with an earnest desire to ensure success, he must then express his surprise at their arriving at conclusions, which he does not consider to be justified by any part of his conduct, and which he conceives his repeated declarations ought to have prevented.

Allusion is made in the proposed explanation of the gentlemen of the late Council, to the Governor General's having determined to reserve for the consideration of Her Majesty's government, one of the bills passed by the two Legislative houses. That is the Secret Societies Bill. If there is any part of the functions of the Governor in which he is more than any other bound to exercise an independent judgment, it must be in giving the royal assent to Acts of Parliament. With regard to this duty he has special instructions from Her Majesty to reserve every act of an unusual or extraordinary character. Undoubtedly the Secret Societies Bill answers that description, being unexampled in British legislation. The gentlemen of the late Council heard his sentiments on it expressed to them. He told them that it was an arbitrary and unwise measure, and not even calculated to effect the object it had in view. He had given his consent to its being introduced into Parliament, because he had promised, soon after his assumption of the government, that he would sanction legislation on the subject, as a substitute for executive measures, which he refused to adopt on account of their proscriptive character; although he deprecates the existence of societies which tend to foment religious and civil discord. The gentlemen of the late Council cannot fail to remember with what pertinacity those measures were pressed on him, and can hardly be unaware of what would have followed at

that time, if, in addition to rejecting the proscriptive measures urged, he had refused to permit any legislation on the subject.

Permission to introduce a bill cannot be properly assumed as fettering the judgment of the Governor with regard to the royal assent, for much may happen during the passage of the bill through the Legislature to influence his decision. In this case the bill was strongly opposed and reprobated in the Assembly, but when it went to the Legislative Council, many of the members had seceded, and it did not come up from that house with the advantage of having been passed in a full meeting. Taking these circumstances into consideration, together with the precise instructions of Her Majesty, and the uncertainty of Her Majesty's allowing such a bill to go into operation, the Governor General considered to be his duty to reserve it for Her Majesty's consideration; as it was much better that it should not go into operation until confirmed by Her Majesty's government, than that it should be discontinued after its operation had commenced.

In conclusion, the Governor General protests against the explanation which those gentlemen propose to offer to Parliament, as omitting entirely the actual and prominent circumstances which led to their resignation, and as conveying to Parliament a misapprehension of his sentiments and intentions, which has no foundation in any part of his conduct, unless his refusal to make a virtual surrender of the prerogative of the Crown to the Council for party purposes, and his anxiety to do justice to those who were injured by the arrangements attending the union, can be regarded as warranting a representation, which is calculated to injure him, without just cause, in the opinion of the parliament and the people, on whose confidence he places his sole reliance for the successful administration of the government.

Government House,
28th November, 1843.

ADDRESSES AND REPLIES.

TOWN OF LONDON.

To His Excellency the Right Hon. Sir C. T. METCALFE,
Bart., G. C. B., Governor General of British North America,
&c. &c. &c.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Inhabitants of the Town of London, in public meeting assembled, approach Your Excellency with feelings of gratitude and admiration, which we cannot sufficiently express.

The measures proposed by Your Excellency's late advisers, and the extraordinary appointments to office made through their means, have caused us for some time to tremble for the fate of this province; we refrained however from giving expression to our fears, and thus agitating the public mind, in the confident expectation that Your Excellency's great abilities, and desire to perpetuate the connection between this province and our father land, would point out to you the proper time to put a stop to their democratic proceedings; that time has arrived, and our expectations have been realized to the letter.

We therefore now assemble for the purpose of tendering to Your Excellency our heartfelt thanks as loyal British subjects, for the noble stand which Your Excellency has made against the unconstitutional encroachments of the late council; and of assuring Your Excellency that we are prepared to support, by every means in our power, Your Excellency's efforts to uphold British principles and British supremacy in this province.

We rejoice to find that "the Secret Societies Bill," which Your Excellency has justly characterized as "unwise and arbitrary," and as being "unexampled in British legislation," has never received the sanction of Your Excellency. We

cannot but conceive that every thinking man at all jealous for the principles of British liberty, regarded that measure as a foul disgrace to the colony—as calculated if not intended by its originators, to offer insult to individuals of high standing in Great Britain; and beyond doubt to disgust and coerce many of Her Majesty's most loyal, brave, and devoted subjects in this province.

We trust that a better day now dawns upon us: that soon under the firm and impartial government of Your Excellency, we shall enjoy that stability in our institutions to which we are entitled, as a colony of one of the oldest civilized governments in the world; and that we shall no longer be exposed to those rapid changes and disastrous experiments in legislation, which have of late so often disturbed the peace and prosperity of this noble province.

London, December, 1843.

(Here follow 440 signatures.)

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks for the assurances which you convey to me of your loyalty to our Gracious Sovereign, and your attachment to our father land—noble sentiments, worthy of British hearts,—and of your support in my endeavours to uphold British principles and British supremacy in this province, by making my administration of the government beneficial to the country, and just and equal to all races and classes of its inhabitants, without exception or distinction; a course from which no opposition, founded on artful misrepresentation or blind misapprehension of my conduct and views, shall ever induce me to depart.

My warmest wishes for the prosperity of your London, and for happiness on the banks of your Thames, will ever accompany my heartfelt thankfulness for the confidence which you repose in my honest intentions.

TOWN OF COBOURG.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned Inhabitants of the Town of Cobourg, in the Province of Canada, beg leave most respectfully to address Your Excellency, in the present position of our public affairs.

We feel ourselves constrained, as dutiful and loyal subjects

of the Queen, to express our hearty concurrence in the sentiments which Your Excellency has recently felt yourself called upon to announce, in vindication of the rights and prerogatives of the Crown; and to assure Your Excellency of our unwavering support in defence of principles which are implied in our pledged allegiance to the Sovereign, and intimately associated with our best hopes, as subjects of a mighty empire.

If it shall be understood to have been conceded, that individuals holding offices of trust and emolument under the Crown in this colony, and designed to act as advisers to Your Excellency, shall be selected in accordance with the well understood wishes of the people as expressed through their representatives in parliament; we cannot consider that such a concession as this, admitting that it has been made, implies the surrender to that body of all the local patronage of the crown.

The admission of such a principle would, we are free to declare, be as contradictory to the meaning of our allegiance, and to the spirit of our constitutional charter, as it would be destructive of the tranquillity and best practical interests of this province.

We cordially agree with Your Excellency, that such a demand, as that made by the late Executive Council, "is inadmissible, needless, and ill judged;" and we feel well assured, that the uncompromising maintenance of these sentiments, in connection with the firm, impartial, and paternal administration of the government, which we have the fullest confidence in Your Excellency's determination to exercise, will meet with a warm response in the loyal affections of a large majority of the inhabitants of this great province.

(Here follow 431 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my cordial thanks, for your loyal address; and for the gratifying sentiments of concurrence, which you have expressed with reference to my conduct on a recent occasion.

Your generous assurance of support will cheer me in my continued endeavours to administer the government of this great province, for the benefit and according to the wants and wishes of the people; and the manifestation on this important occasion of your devotion to the Crown, and of your attachment to the mother country, confirms the belief which I have always been disposed to entertain, that confident

reliance may be placed on the good sense and good feeling of the inhabitants of Canada; severed from the parent state by the broad waves of the Atlantic, but united with her by mutual interests and affections, under the benign sway of our Gracious Sovereign, and the powerful protection of the British Empire. May the Almighty bless this union, and grant that it be perpetual. My constant efforts will be directed to that object, manifestly beneficial to both countries; and I hope that Canada may be the favored land to which the superabundant population and capital of the British Isles, will unceasingly flow.

COUNTY OF FRONTENAC.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Yeomen of the County of Frontenac in Her Majesty's Province of Canada, in public meeting assembled, humbly beg leave to approach Your Excellency in the present important crisis, and to offer our unfeigned approval of the manly stand taken by Your Excellency on the question of Responsible Government as applicable to this province; and as expressed by Your Excellency in your communication to the House of Assembly of the 29th November last.

We tender to Your Excellency our humble, but firm support in the course of policy which you have been pleased to adopt in relation to this important subject; and we feel confident, that, while Your Excellency will ever maintain the dignity and prerogative of the Crown, you will at the same time uphold and protect all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this province, in their just rights.

We shall ever look with indignation upon any attempt made to embarrass Your Excellency in the administration of the government, but we feel confident that Your Excellency's firm and vigorous conduct, will enable you to carry out such measures as will promote the prosperity and happiness of the people, and we confidently hope that Your Excellency will be attended with the same success in this province, which has ever characterized Your Excellency's public career.

We glory in the name of British subjects, we glory in the constitution under which we live, and we glory in the connection with the parent state, which it will ever be our bounden duty to maintain and perpetuate.

(Signed) HENRY SMITH, JUN., *Chairman.*
JOHN DUNLAP, *Secretary.*

Waterloo, Dec. 13th, 1843.

ANSWER.

I thank, you heartily, gentlemen, for your loyal and public spirited address.

It is a great comfort to me, to receive the assurance of your fervent love for the British Constitution, and of your determination to maintain and perpetuate your connection with the mother country; for on such feelings and dispositions, the happiness of Canada appears to me to depend. Under the auspices of this connection, the population of Canada has increased with a rapidity scarcely known in any other region. By this connection, the superabundant capital and population of the mother country, will bring wealth and strength and prosperity to Canada; while the millions who will inhabit this province, consuming the manufactures of the United Kingdom, will return the same benefits to the maternal bosom whence they have emanated. But I am wrong in replying to your loyal address, with calculations of profit. Loyalty is not a calculating process. It is a feeling of the heart; and it is on hearts like yours, that I rely for the safety and welfare of this portion of the dominions of our beloved and gracious Queen.

TOWN AND TOWNSHIP OF ORILLIA.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town and Township of Orillia, in the District of Simcoe, humbly approach Your Excellency with renewed expressions of our unshaken attachment to the person and government of our beloved Sovereign, and to your Excellency as Her representative among us.

It may be in the recollection of Your Excellency, that on your arrival in this part of Her Majesty's dominions, an address signed by a large majority of the inhabitants of this Township was laid before you, hailing with delight Your Excellency's having assumed the high office with which our gracious Sovereign had invested you, and placing our entire confidence in your well tried wisdom and experience; at the same time humbly and respectfully praying Your Excellency, to dismiss from your councils, the honourables Messrs. Baldwin, LaFontaine, Hincks, Harrison and Small, having no confidence in their British feelings, or political integrity. Since that

period we have had reason to view with greatly increased alarm, the introduction by them of measures, which we conscientiously believe to be at variance with the best interests of the country, subversive of the principles of the British Constitution, and by an insidious yet sure process, undermining our connexion with our beloved father land; and who with liberality on their lips, were aiming deadly blows at the liberty of the subject, and of vested rights. We have been particularly disgusted with the studied insult so continually offered to the faithful and loyal of the land, and by the advancement to situations of honour and emolument, of suspected and disloyal persons; the reckless waste of the public money; the introduction of taxes most oppressive in their nature, and ruinous in their consequences, to meet the extravagance of the executive; the consequent accumulating and greatly increased debt of the province; the attempt to deprive a large and loyal portion of Her Majesty's subjects of their dearest privileges; and the laying violent hands on the property of public bodies, the free gift of the Crown, and held by them by as sacred and enduring a title as that by which we hold our own freeholds. We cannot help therefore giving vent to the expression of our unmingled and joyous satisfaction at the resignation of those gentlemen.

We would now beg to express our high satisfaction at Your Excellency's nomination of the Hon. John Beverly Robinson (a name peculiarly dear to Simcoe), as Deputy Governor of the Western Province, placing, as we do, our unbounded confidence in his great talent and unimpeachable integrity.

We beg to lay before Your Excellency, the assurance of our humble yet hearty co-operation in maintaining, defending, and perpetuating British feelings, British institutions, and British connection.

That He, by whom kings reign and princes and governors decree justice, may guide and direct Your Excellency in the present important crisis of public affairs; and that He may bless you with a long continued, prosperous, and constitutional administration, is our sincere prayer.

(Here follow 102 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I thank you heartily, gentlemen, for the assurance which your address conveys of your unshaken attachment to the person and government of our beloved Sovereign; of your

co-operation in defending, maintaining, and perpetuating British feelings, British institutions, and British connection; and of your kind sentiments towards me, as Her Majesty's representative in this part of her dominions.

I rely with implicit confidence on your loyalty and good feeling; and trust that I may have your co-operation in cultivating harmony and brotherly love with all our fellow subjects, so that dissension and party acrimony may cease, and all be of one heart and mind in loyalty to the Queen, and zealous endeavours to promote the welfare and happiness of the province.

The commission to the Chief Justice of Upper Canada, which you notice, was a temporary arrangement, connected with the formation of the Court of Appeal, and limited to that object. I entirely concur with you in your high opinion of the admirable qualities of that distinguished functionary; but I have not thought it necessary to delegate to any other hands, the powers which Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to place in mine.

TOWNSHIP OF WARWICK.

May it please Your Excellency.

We, Inhabitants and Freeholders of the Township of Warwick, beg leave to approach Your Excellency as the representative of our most gracious sovereign Queen Victoria, with sentiments of devoted attachment to her person and government. Gratified beyond measure at the resignation of the members of the late Executive Council, we cannot defer the expressions of our thankfulness to Your Excellency, for your firm and manly conduct on that occasion, convinced that under their auspices, the Province of Canada must sooner or later have been precipitated into a state of disorganization, terminating in civil war, and disruption from the mother country. The picture is now reversed, and we look forward with confidence to the dawn of happier days, under the fostering care of Your Excellency, and an Executive Council actuated by a sincere love of their country. We cannot regard without sentiments of astonishment and indignation, the attempt to wrest from Your Excellency the prerogative of the Crown, as set forth in your Excellency's message to the Legislative Assembly of Canada, and we congratulate Your Excellency, on the firmness with which you resisted a measure so unwarrantable, and unconstitutional. Let Your Excellency proceed

boldly and circumspectly in the career you have so auspiciously begun, in full assurance of the support of every honest and loyal subject. Your Excellency will thereby revive the spirits of all good men and true, who have regarded the attempted encroachments of a faction, against their constitutional principles and privileges, with just abhorrence and indignation.

Warwick, Western District,
December 13th, 1843.

(Here follow 32 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my sincere thanks, for your manifestation of loyalty to our gracious Sovereign, and of devoted attachment to her person and government.

I am cheered by your assurances of approbation and support, in the course that I have pursued in refusing to surrender the constitutional prerogative of the Crown, which I am bound to preserve inviolate, as well by my duty to our Queen, as by regard for her good and loyal subjects in this portion of the empire, whose rights and liberties it is her royal pleasure that I should guard with jealous care.

With no other object in view, than the prosperity and happiness of the people of Canada, and strengthened by the consciousness, that I am honestly seeking the means of securing those results, no obstacles that may be opposed, shall induce me to swerve from the path alike prescribed by due reverence for our Sovereign, and affection for my fellow subjects.

VILLAGE OF BOND HEAD.

May it please Your Excellency,

At a large and respectable meeting of the Inhabitants of Bond Head, in the County of Simcoe, held on the 9th December, 1843, at 12 o'clock. A. M.—J. W. Dewson, Esq., in the chair :

The annexed resolutions were adopted unanimously, approving of the high and constitutional stand Your Excellency has made, in accepting the resignation of those individuals of your late Executive, who have used their utmost endeavours to embarrass Your Excellency, and interfere with the royal prerogative, by arrogating to themselves the disposal of the patronage of the crown for their own political purposes, which

if allowed would tend to interrupt the harmony of the province, and ultimately destroy the best interests of the country.

This meeting beg to assure Your Excellency, that the attempt of your late councillors to introduce measures such as the Assessment Bill, the removal of the seat of government, the bill interfering with the King's College, Toronto; and the undue interference with the liberty of the subject, by what is termed the Secret Societies' Bill, &c. &c., alike meet with our just abhorrence, and we hereby tender our most unfeigned thanks for the promptness with which Your Excellency has defeated their objects.

(Signed on behalf of the Meeting)

J. W. DEWSON, *Chairman.*

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, 1st.—That this meeting heartily respond to the Governor General, in accepting the resignation of those individuals of his executive, who presumed to render the authority of the representative of our most gracious Sovereign “a nullity,” by arrogating to themselves the prerogative of the crown for party purposes.

Resolved, 2nd.—That the inhabitants of Bond Head and its vicinity, fully concur in the view of His Excellency the Governor General, believing that the object of his late advisers is the separation of this province from the mother country.

Resolved, 3rd.—That it is with feelings of indignation, we have noticed the design of the enemies of the Established Church of England and Ireland, to introduce a bill repugnant to the British Constitution, and tending to destroy civil and religious liberty. We therefore strongly deprecate any attempt that may be made to interfere with the Royal Charter of King's College, Toronto.

Resolved, 4th.—That the individuals comprising this meeting pledge themselves to the support of His Excellency the Governor General in carrying out measures, having a tendency to cement the connexion between this and the mother country; and would bitterly deplore, and to the utmost of their power resist, any attempt to separate this from the parent state.

Resolved, 5th.—That the following gentlemen be a committee for the purpose of forwarding the address, now read at this meeting, to His Excellency the Governor General, viz., Major Rose, Edward Tinley, Esq., and 13 others.

Resolved, 6th.—That the Chairman do sign the address on behalf of this meeting.

Resolved, 7th.—That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the *Toronto Herald*, the *Patriot*, the *Church*, and the *Star* newspapers.

Resolved, 8th.—That Mr. Dewson leave the chair, which being done, a vote of thanks was passed for the able manner in which the Chairman had conducted the meeting.

J. F. ROBINSON, *Secretary*.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my sincere thanks for the loyal spirit which has dictated your address.

My best endeavours will ever be devoted to the welfare of Canada, and I rely with confidence on the loyalty and good sense of the people for adequate support to Her Majesty's government, which ardently desires the prosperity and harmony of the province.

TOWNSHIPS OF TAY AND TINY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the townships of Tay and Tiny, in public meeting assembled, beg respectfully to tender to Your Excellency our warmest and most cordial congratulations at the resignation of Your Excellency's late Council.

Party spirit has so strongly shewn itself in the appointments to office and to the magistracy in this new District of Simcoe, to the almost entire exclusion of fit and proper persons, that we as loyal British subjects most sincerely return our thanks to Your Excellency, and can have no doubt but that Your Excellency will be supported with heart and hand in the noble stand Your Excellency has made against a faction, inimical to the best interests of the British crown and nation, and subversive of the prerogative of our beloved and gracious Queen.

(Signed) JOHN MOBERLY, *Chairman*.

ANSWER.

I thank you sincerely, gentlemen, for the loyal spirit which has prompted your address, and for your assurance of attachment to the British crown and nation and of devotion to our beloved and gracious Queen.

Relying confidently on the loyalty and good sense of the people, I trust that we shall overcome all apparent difficulties, and work together for the welfare of the province and the happiness of its inhabitants, under the powerful protection of the British empire.

COUNTY OF LENNOX AND ADDINGTON.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the county of Lennox and Addington, in public meeting assembled, beg respectfully to offer to Your Excellency our assurance of our loyalty and devotion to our beloved Sovereign.

We have learned from official documents recently laid before parliament; that the resignation of the late Executive Council was caused by the refusal of Your Excellency "to surrender the prerogative of the crown to them for party purposes; to render that Council supreme, and the authority of the Governor a nullity."

The inhabitants of Lennox and Addington feel themselves constrained, as dutiful and loyal subjects, to express their hearty concurrence in the sentiments which Your Excellency was called upon to announce in vindicating the rights and prerogatives of the crown, and to tender to Your Excellency our warmest and most cordial support in the noble stand you have taken, and to express our conviction that Your Excellency may rely with confidence for the successful administration of the government on the good sense and loyalty of the people of Canada.

(By order and on behalf of the meeting.)

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with gratification your approval of my conduct, and with feelings of still higher satisfaction the assurance of your devoted attachment to our beloved Sovereign, and of your determination to support me in vindicating the constitutional prerogative of the crown.

The loyalty of the people of Canada stands recorded in the most eventful pages of her history, and it is on that genuine spirit and on their good sense that I rely in the position that my duty has required me to assume, and from which nothing shall move me, as long as I continue to possess the confidence of those who, like the yeomen of Lennox and Addington, are

ready to give me their cordial co-operation in my honest endeavours to promote the welfare and happiness of Canada, and to strengthen our connexion with that mighty empire of which we form a part, and to which we are bound by reciprocal benefits and mutual affection.

ST. JOHN'S AND CHRISTIEVILLE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of St. John's and Christiaville, C. E., anxious to express our entire and hearty assent to the principles advanced by Your Excellency, in the late exposition of your views on the subject of the government of this province; and fully concurring with Your Excellency that the course you have pursued towards your late advisers was the only one left you, consistently with your duty to our Sovereign and to the country over which it has pleased Divine Providence to place you, we have sought this early opportunity of expressing our loyalty to our Sovereign, our confidence in Your Excellency, and our firm determination to co-operate with you in the furtherance of those principles and the carrying out of those measures which alone tend to maintain inviolate the integrity of the empire; to uphold the prerogative of the British crown, and to save this country from republicanism and misrule.

May we be allowed humbly to express our entire accord-ance with Your Excellency in the opinion, that to enter into any pledge as to your future acts, would be a virtual abandonment of the admitted principle of irresponsibility on the part of the head of the executive government, to others than "the Imperial authority alone;" would be to debase in the eyes of Her Majesty's subjects the authority of the crown, by subordinating the representative of royalty to the Executive Council; by binding him, by engagements the most stringent, to affix the seal of Her Majesty to all the future appointments of the ministry, be the individuals so appointed qualified or not qualified, friends or foes to the British constitution.

The answer of Your Excellency to a demand so unprecedented and unconstitutional was well worthy the representative of British royalty, and calculated to inspire all dutiful subjects with confidence in Your Excellency's character, judgment and administration; and to cause every well prin-

cipl'd citizen and every lover of good government, of whatever creed or nation, to rally round the standard of loyalty, and to declare as one man their fixed determination to support the constitution and the monarchy, and to use every effort to strengthen the government of one who desires to be the rewarder of merit wherever it exists, and the impartial distributor of justice to all.

December 9th, 1843.

(Here follow 140 signatures.)

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my hearty thanks for your loyal address; for your favourable opinion of my views and proceedings; and for your cordial assurance of support to Her Majesty's government.

With such support from loyal hearts; with the application of patronage to the reward of merit, and the efficiency of the public service; economy in the public expenditure; and with equal justice to all of every race, creed, class and degree, I will not cease to hope, however incompetent my own humble efforts may be to produce so great a result, that the blessing of the Almighty will grant to this favored land, prosperity, harmony and happiness.

TOWNSHIPS OF MELBOURNE, KINGSEY, AND SHIPTON.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, inhabitants of Melbourne, Kingsey, Shipton, and adjoining townships, beg to offer to Your Excellency the unfeigned tribute of our gratitude for the noble stand made by Your Excellency in defence of the prerogative of the crown. We have, since Your Excellency's arrival in the province, regarded Your Excellency's position with feelings of deep interest, a position as difficult as ever occurred in the history of the province; and the open and decisive course pursued by Your Excellency demands our sincerest admiration.

We receive, with hope and confidence, the expression of Your Excellency's views regarding responsible government, and beg to assure Your Excellency, that any ministry formed in accordance with such views will have our unqualified support.

That Your Excellency may long continue to hold the reins

of government, and by the exercise of that impartiality and love of justice which has always characterized Your Excellency, soften the prejudices and reconcile the differences of this hitherto distracted and divided province, is our earnest prayer.

(Signed by desire and on behalf of the meeting)

ED. COX, *Chairman.*

Melbourne, Dec. 12th, 1843.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for this communication of your sentiments, and for the kind interest which you take in my position, and for your favorable estimate of my conduct and views, and for your cheering assurance of support.

I heartily concur in your patriotic prayer, that all prejudices may be softened, I would say annihilated; and all differences reconciled, so that harmony may combine all races and classes in the blissful union of brotherly love. Dissension and distrust are the great evils that afflict this province, which in other respects is almost unrivalled in the solid benefits that it enjoys, from its immense natural advantages, and from the powerful protection of the great empire of which it forms a part.

Permit me to add my cordial wishes for increasing prosperity in your fine portion of the country, and for every other blessing that can promote your happiness.

CITY OF TORONTO.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the City of Toronto in public meeting assembled, beg respectfully to renew to Your Excellency our assurances of our loyalty and devotion to our beloved Sovereign.

We have learnt from official documents recently laid before Parliament, that Your Excellency's late Executive Councillors with one exception have resigned, and that their resignation has been accepted on the grounds, that the concessions demanded by those gentlemen would in Your Excellency's emphatic words be "virtually to surrender the prerogative of the crown to the council for party purposes," "to render that council supreme, and the authority of the Governor a nullity."

The inhabitants of the City of Toronto fully concur in these

views of Your Excellency, and hesitate not to express their opinion that the question now at issue, between Your Excellency and your late advisers, virtually involves the alternative of connection with or separation from the mother country.

We beg most respectfully to tender to Your Excellency, on the present occasion, the assurance of our warmest and most cordial support in the noble stand Your Excellency has taken, to uphold the just and undoubted prerogatives of our beloved Sovereign, and the rights and liberties of the subject; and our conviction that Your Excellency may with perfect confidence "rely for the successful administration of the government, on the good sense and loyalty of the people of Canada."

(By order and on behalf of the meeting)

(Signed) HENRY SHERWOOD, *Mayor and Chairman.*
W. C. KEELE, *Secretary.*

The City of Toronto,
5th December, 1843.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for your cordial and loyal address.

I shall ever remember with lively gratitude the generous assurance of support, which you have brought me at this important period.

It is a great satisfaction to find that you concur with me in believing that I may rely with confidence for the successful administration of the government on the good sense and loyalty of the people of Canada; and my zealous endeavours will ever be directed to promote their happiness, and to secure the welfare of this province, under the maternal protection of our beloved Sovereign.

It is a source of great joy and comfort to me, to communicate with hearts like yours, sympathising with my own in love and loyalty to Her Majesty, and attachment to the mother country.

Under the influence of these feelings, and in the enjoyment of all the cherished rights and privileges of British subjects, there is great ground to hope that Canada will be a prosperous and happy country. Nothing can more contribute to this blissful result, than moderation in all parties, and an earnest desire to adopt and encourage mutual conciliation and harmony. I rejoice in the assurance that such is the spirit by which you are actuated; British hearts and liberal dispositions are naturally in unison.

TOWNSHIP OF TORONTO.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the Township of Toronto, at our annual township meeting assembled, beg leave most respectfully to approach Your Excellency with the assurance of our strong and firm confidence in Your Excellency's administration of the government of this province; and as British subjects, unalterably attached to the government and institutions of Great Britain, our determination to uphold by every means in our power the principles expressed by Your Excellency, in your message of the 30th November last, to the Legislative Assembly, on the subject of the resignation of the late Executive Councillors, wherein you state that to accede to their demands would be "virtually to surrender the prerogative of the crown to the Council for party purposes, rendering that Council supreme, and the authority of the Governor a nullity;" believing as we do, that the question then at issue between Your Excellency and your late Executive Councillors, fully and effectually involves the plain alternative of connection with or separation from the mother country.

We cannot but express our warmest approbation of the stand lately taken by Your Excellency in maintaining the just and undoubted prerogative of our beloved Sovereign, and also Your Excellency's determination to uphold the rights and liberties of the subject, and our assurance that Your Excellency may confidently rely for the successful administration of your government on the good sense and loyalty of the people.

Permit us most respectfully to express our earnest and sincere wish that Your Excellency may see many returns of this anniversary, in the full enjoyment of health and happiness.

(Signed) W. THOMPSON, *J. P. and*
District Councillor, Chairman.
 JOHN EMBLETON, *Township Clerk.*

Streetsville, January 1st, 1844.

ANSWER.

The assurance conveyed to me, gentlemen, in your loyal address, of your approval and confidence, and of your determination to uphold the principles which I have expressed, demands my grateful acknowledgments.

I trust our connection with the mother country will be perpetuated by the mutual benefits which it ensures, and that no demon of mischief will ever seek to destroy or impair that blissful union.

For your kind wishes towards me personally, accept my hearty thanks. I will venture to hope that when a new year shall again appear, all parties may be found united in efforts to promote the public good, free from the clouds which have obscured the enjoyment of the anniversary that has recently passed.

TOWN OF BELLEVILLE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, inhabitants of the town of Belleville, in the Victoria District, humbly beg leave to approach Your Excellency, to express to you our gratitude for the resistance which Your Excellency has offered to the unconstitutional attempt of the late Executive Council of this province, so to degrade the royal authority, so to subvert the royal prerogative, as to render them merely passive instruments in the hands of a Colonial Council.

As British subjects, we recognize the paramount authority of the mother country over this province as one of our proudest boasts, and we look for the constitutional and untrammelled exercise of the royal prerogative, either by our Gracious Sovereign or by her Representative, as one of the best securities afforded to us for the preservation of our constitutional rights. We therefore thank Your Excellency that you have been pleased to oppose the unconstitutional demands of the late Executive Council, that the exercise of the royal prerogative of assenting to acts of the provincial parliament should, on the part of Your Excellency, be a matter of mere form, and not of conscientious judgment and deliberation; and we accept with gratitude the expression of Your Excellency's determination to maintain this royal prerogative in this colony upon its true constitutional basis against anti-British and republican intrigue.

We have always looked to our Sovereign as the fountain of office and honour under our constitution, and beg of Your Excellency to accept our cordial concurrence in the opinion, that to make any stipulation to surrender the patronage of the crown to the Executive Council would violate the duty and degrade the character of the office of representative of

our gracious Queen. In the position thus assumed by Your Excellency, and in your own unblemished public reputation, we recognize additional guarantees that our lives, our properties, and our civil and religious liberties, are still to be secured to us, on monarchical and constitutional foundations.

We beg to assure Your Excellency of our continued devotion and attachment to our most gracious Queen, and of our reliance upon the wisdom of her advisers; and should Your Excellency appeal to the people of this province to sustain you in the course you have adopted, we will uphold the principles Your Excellency has avowed, humbly trusting that under Providence Your Excellency may thus, placing your sole reliance upon the confidence of the people for the successful administration of your government, be enabled to preserve unimpaired the principles of our constitutional monarchy against all anti-British doctrines that may be urged upon you.

(Signed) EDMUND MURNEY, *Chairman.*

Belleville, 11th December, 1843.

(Here follow 243 signatures.)

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks for your loyal address, and for the assurance of your devotion to our most gracious Queen, and of your determination to uphold Her Majesty's government in this province, as well as for the gratifying expression of your approbation of the conduct which I have pursued.

Adopting the resolutions of the House of Assembly of the 3rd September, 1841, as my guide, and bent on carrying on the government on the principles of responsibility which have been practically established in this province, as far as may be possible, consistently with our inviolable relations as a colony subject to the British crown, I trust that in this course I shall have your support, and that of every individual in whose breast any attachment to British connection exists; and I will cherish the hope, that due care of the prerogative of the crown and the rights of the people, equal affection to all well disposed members of the community, equal justice and equal administration of benefits to all races, classes and degrees, will in time reconcile all parties, and produce that state of harmony which may be expected to unite internal happiness and universal attachment to the parent state, with the prosperity and wealth that we have abundant reason to

anticipate from the peculiar advantages enjoyed by this country, in splendid natural means, and in the powerful protection of a mighty empire.

TOWN OF PORT HOPE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the incorporated town of Port Hope, beg leave to tender to Your Excellency our humble thanks and support in the important and decided course recently adopted by Your Excellency, with regard to the late divisions in Your Excellency's Council.

Although few in number, the inhabitants of Port Hope will yield to none in loyalty to their gracious Queen and in respect for Her Majesty's representative; and the undersigned feel that Your Excellency has a right to expect that every well wisher to the Canadas will rally round the standard of Your Excellency, and tender their zealous assistance and cordial co-operation in the happy course so lately taken by Your Excellency. We feel assured that if this united support is timely proffered to Your Excellency, the day is not far distant when party spirit and party feuds will be forgotten, and the people of United Canada become under Your Excellency's judicious administration united, prosperous, and happy.

Port Hope, 12th December, 1843.

(Here follow 149 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I am truly thankful to you, gentlemen, for your public spirited address, and rely with perfect confidence on your loyalty to our gracious Queen and your attachment to the British constitution.

Your assurances of support and co-operation demand my gratitude; and the most anxious wishes of my heart would be accomplished if the time should come when, as you predict, party feuds will be forgotten, and the people of this colony be united, prosperous, and happy. To expect such a result from my devoted efforts is beyond my most sanguine aspirations; but I humbly hope that the Father of all will bless the attempt, and realize that delightful prospect.

TOWN OF CHATHAM.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the town of Chatham, and its vicinity, humbly beg to approach Your Excellency in order to express our entire satisfaction at the just and constitutional stand made by Your Excellency, to maintain the lawful and reasonable prerogative of the crown in appointments to office :

And cannot refrain from expressing our indignation at the endeavour to coerce Your Excellency to degrade that prerogative into a mere political engine, for the purpose of keeping the late Executive Councillors in office, and depressing Upper Canadian interests, and loyal sentiments.

That we, in common with Your Excellency, have always objected to the exclusive distribution of patronage with party views, and maintain the principle that office ought in every instance, to be given to the man best qualified to render official services to the state.

And that we offer Your Excellency our humble but strenuous exertions, in supporting this just view of the case, against the unjust demands of the late Executive Councillors.

(Here follow 89 signatures.)

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my warmest thanks for the loyal spirit which has induced you to address me, and for the gratifying assurance of your strenuous support in defence of the crown.

My earnest endeavours will always be exerted, to combine with the due maintenance of the prerogative of the crown the full preservation of the rights of the people, and sincere respect for local wishes and opinions ; and I trust that I shall have the cordial co-operation of all whose loyal hearts, like your own, are attached to the mother country, and appreciate the protection of the British empire.

TOWNSHIP OF MOORE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects of this distant township, beg to approach Your Excellency with a strong expression of our devoted love to our beloved Sovereign, and deep respect and regard for Your Excellency's person.

At this eventful period, we deem it a duty which we owe

to Your Excellency's manly declaration, openly to come forward and assure Your Excellency that it has struck a responsive chord in all our bosoms, and we make bold to say in the bosom of every person who holds sacred as we do British principle, British honour, and our ancient and venerable constitution, and to pledge ourselves to a firm, uncompromising support of Your Excellency's policy in all cases, and under all circumstances.

We have not tamely beheld the presumptuous attempt to make the viceroy of Her Majesty the controlled agent of a party, and the insult thus offered to our Queen and her high minded representative. And we beg Your Excellency to receive this brief, but sincere testimony, of our admiration of your conduct, and firm determination to stand by you to the last, in the spirit in which it is meant.

We know not whether our warm feelings have been clothed in the appropriate and established language of addresses, but thus we know, that it would be difficult to express the sentiments of veneration and affection, with which we are Your Excellency's

Most faithful and obedient servants.

(Here follow 46 signatures.)

Township of Moore,
14th December, 1843.

ANSWER.

I am truly sensible, gentlemen, of the honour conferred on me by your affectionate address, and I rely with confidence on your assurances of support, in my endeavours to maintain unimpaired the prerogative of the crown and the rights of all classes of the people.

It is most gratifying to me to perceive, that in your distant settlement you so highly appreciate the blessings you enjoy, under the protection of the mighty empire to which we have the proud fortune to belong; and that you yield to none, in your loyalty to our gracious Queen, and in love and veneration for the British constitution.

For the warmth and kindness of your sentiments towards myself, I beg you to except my heartfelt thanks, together with fervent wishes for your prosperity and happiness.

TOWN OF ST. THOMAS.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of St. Thomas and its vicinity, in the London District, beg leave most respectfully

to tender to Your Excellency the expression of our unalterable attachment to Her Majesty's crown and person, and to assure Your Excellency that we entertain sentiments of the highest respect towards Your Excellency, as Her Majesty's representative.

The connection happily existing between Great Britain and this province we consider essential to our welfare and prosperity, and any change which may disturb this connection we cannot too strongly deprecate.

We regard as one of the essential features of the British constitution, that the whole executive power is lodged in the head of the government, over and above the influence of party; and any attempt to deprive Her Majesty's representative of such power, merits our just condemnation.

The attempt of the late Executive Council to wrest from Your Excellency the undoubted prerogative of the crown, to appoint to office the persons whom Your Excellency may consider the most fit to discharge the duties required of them, would, had it been successful, prove a dangerous innovation on the British constitution.

The dignified assertion of British supremacy which Your Excellency has made, in resisting the unconstitutional demands of your late Executive Council, calls for our warmest thanks and highest admiration, and has inspired the loyal inhabitants of Canada with confidence in Your Excellency's wisdom and ability as a British statesman; and we beg to assure Your Excellency that we will support Your Excellency to the utmost of our power, in your just endeavours to maintain inviolate the prerogative of the crown.

(Here follow 296 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I highly appreciate, gentlemen, the fervent loyalty evinced in your address, and I cordially thank you for your assurance of support in my endeavours to administer the government of this country to the benefit and contentment of the people.

Your feelings of unalterable attachment to our beloved Sovereign's crown and person, and your just view of the essential importance of our connection with the mother country, are worthy of loyal hearts and sensible minds; such as may be relied on for maintaining that connection unimpaired to the great advantage of both countries.

I shall ever be proud to be deemed deserving of the confidence that you generously repose in me.

TOWN OF CORNWALL.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the town of Cornwall, in the Eastern District, and Province of Canada, in public meeting assembled, avail ourselves of the opportunity which the present crisis in public affairs presents, a crisis involving the question of connection with or separation from the mother country, to tender to Your Excellency our high respect for Your Excellency personally, and our gratitude for the firm and decisive stand which Your Excellency has taken, in arresting the unjustifiable encroachments attempted to be made by Your Excellency's late advisers upon the prerogatives of the crown—prerogatives, the existence of which we firmly believe to be essential to the preservation of our liberties, and to the proper and harmonious working of that inimitable constitution which has placed England foremost in the rank of nations, and which, in a form modified to suit our circumstances as a colony, we have every hope and confidence Your Excellency will maintain unimpaired, as the only means of restoring to us that peace and tranquillity which political agitation and dissensions have so long banished from our land.

The course which your Excellency has lately deemed it necessary to pursue in defence of these prerogatives, and of the principle of "equal justice to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects," cannot fail to recommend Your Excellency most strongly to the support and esteem of every true lover of his country; and with sincerity we proffer to Your Excellency our unqualified support in maintaining the authority of our most gracious Sovereign over this portion of her dominions, and in carrying into effect the instructions with which Your Excellency may be entrusted for the government of the same; by so doing we feel assured that we shall best consult our own interests, and only discharge that duty of obedience which we owe to the mother country for its protection. In conclusion, we beg leave to say that it has always been the boast of those who now address Your Excellency, to belong to a section of the country which yields to none other in the broad provinces under your control, the palm of unswerving loyalty to our Sovereign; and we assure Your Excellency that we will ever be found ready in time to come, as in days of yore, to respond with heart and hand to every call which may be made upon us in support of our connection with our glorious father land, whether the attack be made insidiously from within or openly from without.

(Here follow 251 signatures.)

ANSWER.

It is with great gratification, gentlemen, that I receive the assurance of your resolution to maintain our connection with the glorious empire of which this noble province forms a part, and under whose fostering care we may reasonably look forward to the enjoyment of as many blessings as have fallen to the lot of any country in the world.

Your patriotic attachment to the British constitution, and fervent loyalty to our gracious Queen, demand my warmest acknowledgments. To nurture such sentiments through the length and breadth of the land, will be my anxious care. On them I greatly rely for the successful administration of the government committed to my charge; and with the cordial co-operation of men influenced by these feelings, I see no cause to doubt, that under favor from on high, the dearest object of my heart may be realized, the establishment of harmony with its sure attendant prosperity, rendering unassailable our cherished connection with the land of our fathers. I am cheered by your hearty approval of my conduct, and I thank you, gentlemen, cordially for the confidence that you are willing to repose in my efforts for the public good.

 CORNWALL BOARD OF POLICE.

May it please Your Excellency,

The president and board of police of the town of Cornwall deem it their duty to approach Your Excellency, for the purpose of tendering to Your Excellency their unfeigned thanks, as loyal subjects, for the magnanimous and firm stand which Your Excellency has taken against the encroachments of your late Council.

And to assure Your Excellency that they, in common with the great bulk of the inhabitants of the district of which this town is the capital, are prepared to support by every constitutional means in their power, Your Excellency's efforts to uphold British principles and British supremacy in this portion of Her Majesty's North American colony.

(Signed) GEORGE MACDONELL, *President*.

Board Room, 26th December, 1843.

ANSWER.

I thank you cordially, gentlemen, for your loyal address, and for the assurance which it affords me of your support, in

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the resistance which it has been my duty to oppose to encroachments that would have rendered the authority of Her Majesty's government in this province a nullity.

While the people of Canada have hearts which, like your own, acknowledge attachment to the mother country, I will not despair of being able to carry on the administration of the government to the contentment of all classes, and to the welfare of the colony, under the affectionate protection of the British crown.

DISTRICT OF LONDON.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the district of London, in public meeting assembled, deem it our duty as loyal British subjects to address your Excellency on the present state of political affairs in this province.

The frequent appointments, through the means of the late Executive Council, of persons whose recommendation was their political partizanship, to offices of trust and emolument, in exclusion of more worthy and competent individuals, has long been cause of much apprehension to us.

We have hitherto forborne to make complaints against this dangerous and selfish system, in the hope that Your Excellency and the country at large would sooner or later view it in its true light, as a most unjustifiable pandering of patronage to party purposes.

The time has now come, however, for us to express our sentiments: we therefore assemble to assure Your Excellency of our gratitude for the manly and constitutional course taken by Your Excellency in refusing the extraordinary demands of the late council, and we trust that the firmness displayed by Your Excellency on that occasion, when carried out may, under Providence, be the means of crushing those dangerous and agitating principles of responsible government lately so boldly contended for.

We can safely assure Your Excellency, that the large majority of the people of Western Canada not only abhor the unconstitutional encroachments of the late Council on the prerogatives of the crown, but they are convinced that that Council was not fit as a body to be trusted with power in a British colony; and this conviction is much strengthened by a review of the many democratic and oppressive measures introduced by them into the legislature.

We properly appreciate Your Excellency's decision to reserve the "Secret Societies Bill" for the consideration of Her Majesty. The provisions of that bill, taking away the rights of a numerous and loyal portion of Her Majesty's subjects, guilty of no crime (unless loyalty be a crime), are so glaringly arbitrary and unconstitutional as to require no comment from us; but it does appear strangely inconsistent that such a measure should have emanated from a party of men professing liberty and reform.

For the course taken by Your Excellency in reserving this bill, and on occasion of the resignation of the late Council, we again respectfully tender to Your Excellency our hearty thanks. We also offer to Your Excellency our humble but earnest support in the discharge of those arduous duties imposed upon you as Governor General of this province; and we feel assured that the all-wise Disposer of events will crown your labours with success.

(Signed on behalf of the inhabitants of the
London District, by)

JAMES HAMILTON, *Chairman.*

JOHN SALTER, *Secretary.*

London, C. W., December 16, 1843.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my hearty thanks for your loyal address on the present state of political affairs in this province; for the gratifying expression of your approval of my conduct; and for the assurance of your support in the discharge of the duties imposed on me by my station.

It will ever be my earnest endeavour to promote the welfare and happiness of Canada; to do justice to all parties; to know no distinction of races or creeds; to make appointments to offices according to merit and just claims, and the efficiency of the public service; to consult in all acts of the government, the interests and wishes of the people; to maintain their rights, no less than the prerogative of the crown, unimpaired, regarding the latter as valuable, only when it conduces to the benefit of the country; and to carry on the administration of affairs according to the system which I have found established in the province, to the full extent practicable in the government of a colony, owing allegiance to our gracious Sovereign, and protected by the power of the British empire.

I rest my hopes of success, under the blessing of the Almighty, on loyal hearts and liberal measures.

DISTRICT OF TALBOT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the magistracy, freeholders, and inhabitants generally of the district of Talbot, in public meeting assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with feelings of unfeigned loyalty, and profound respect for Your Excellency's high character and office, as the representative of our beloved Sovereign.

Deeply alive to the prosperity and peace of our country, we have observed with painful regret, the unhappy rupture which has taken place between Your Excellency and Your Excellency's late Executive Council, a council which possessed so largely the confidence of the people, and have been so efficient in allaying agitated and restoring peaceful feelings.

The principle of responsible government which has occasioned this rupture, we fondly hoped had been so clearly defined and so fully recognized and established, as to obviate all difficulty and altercation for the future.

Your Excellency's avowed conviction, of the absolute necessity of responsibility in the administration, we most thankfully receive, yet Your Excellency's deeming it unnecessary, either to have, or act, upon the information and assistance of a responsible Executive "in all local matters in which the interests of the empire at large are not involved," we fear utterly precludes the probability of honourable gentlemen taking the burden of responsibility on themselves; and even should such be found, we can see no probability of efficiency and harmony obtaining betwixt such an executive, and the legislature.

We trust Your Excellency will receive with candour and kindness this expression of our views on this important subject; we have no earthly object dearer to our hearts than the peace and prosperity of this section of our great and glorious empire.

That Your Excellency may be largely endowed with "that wisdom that is profitable to direct" in the present state of our political affairs, shall be our constant prayer.

(Signed by order and on behalf of the meeting)

JOHN B. CROUSE, *Chairman.*

ROMAINE VANNORMAN, *Secretary.*

Simcoe, Talbot District,
23rd Dec., 1843.

ANSWER.

I receive your address, gentlemen, with the sincere respect which I must always regard as due to the frank and courteous expression of the sentiments of any portion of the inhabitants of this province; and I thank you for your assurance of your unfeigned loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, and of your consideration towards me.

The gentlemen of the late Executive Council who resigned their seats, did so because I could not accede to demands on their part, a compliance with which would have virtually surrendered into their hands the prerogative of the crown, which it is my duty to maintain unimpaired.

The principle of responsible government had no connection with that proceeding, unless that principle can be supposed to mean, that the Executive Council is supreme, and the Governor a mere tool in the hands of a party.

You entirely misapprehend me, if you suppose that I am unwilling to avail myself of the information and assistance of the Executive Council, which on the contrary I am always desirous of obtaining.

I found a plan of responsible government practically established in this colony, and I have endeavoured to carry it on, so as to conduce to public benefit. I shall adhere to the same course; and trust that with the aid of the Executive Council and Provincial Legislature, and with moderation and good sense on all sides, it may prove successful; and tend to promote the content of the people, and the welfare, prosperity and happiness of the colony, as an integral portion of the British empire.

 SECOND ADDRESS FROM THE TALBOT DISTRICT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the District of Talbot, beg to assure Your Excellency of our continued loyalty and attachment to the British Monarchy, and our earnest desire to maintain the connexion between this colony and the mother country.

Whatever differences of opinion may have heretofore existed amongst us, we now desire to express our concurrence in the views of Your Excellency as to the principles on which the government of this colony should be administered and we feel confident, that while Your Excellency will ever maintain

the dignity and prerogative of the crown, you will at the same time uphold and protect all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this province in their just rights.

We rejoice to find, that Your Excellency objects to the exclusive distribution of patronage with party views, and maintains that office ought in every instance to be given to the man best qualified to render efficient service to the state.

In carrying out these principles of government, we pledge ourselves to render to Your Excellency our hearty concurrence and support.

H. V. A. RAPELJE, *Sheriff T. D.*

(Here follow 1418 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I receive with great satisfaction, gentlemen, a second address very numerously signed by inhabitants of the District of Talbot, manifesting a loyal determination to support Her Majesty's government in maintaining the dignity and prerogative of the crown, in conjunction with the rights and liberties of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

I rejoice also in the declaration which you convey to me of your attachment to the British Monarchy, and of your earnest desire to preserve the connection between this colony and the mother country.

It likewise affords me much pleasure to learn, that you concur with me in opinion that the exclusive distribution of patronage with party views is wrong, and that office ought in every instance to be given to the man best qualified to render efficient service to the state.

For your hearty assurance of co-operation and support in carrying out these principles of government, I beg you to accept my warmest thanks. I rely with confidence on the good sense and patriotism of the people, which I believe to be correctly represented in the sentiments that you have expressed.

VICTORIA DISTRICT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the Victoria District, beg leave to approach Your Excellency, and to assure you of our devotion and attachment to our most gracious Queen,

and of our willingness and desire to uphold Her Majesty's authority and prerogatives in her North American colonies.

We approach Your Excellency on the present occasion, with feelings of deep respect, and thank Your Excellency for the noble constitutional stand which you have taken against your late Executive Council, who in their grasping attempt to wrest the royal prerogative from Your Excellency's hands, sought to degrade the high functions with which you are entrusted, by attempting to convert them into partizan purposes, and thus curtail our rights as British subjects.

We have at all times and upon all occasions, denounced that system of responsible government, which makes the Executive Council supreme as administrators, and renders the power of the governor, Her Majesty's representative, a mere nullity; and we do so from a full conviction, that if such a system of responsibility were conceded, there would be an end to our colonial dependence, and we should at once become a separate, but a miserable state—whereas under the kind and fostering protection of the greatest and most powerful and civilized nation upon earth, we are respected as forming a portion of that greatness and civilization, and independent because of her power. Deeply do we feel the obligation, because we cannot but perceive, that Your Excellency has nobly thrown yourself into the breach, which the enemies of British connection have made, and by doing so, you have afforded to the well affected another opportunity to perpetuate that connection which we are ready to defend with our lives and our properties.

We beg to assure Your Excellency, that when we condemn the attempt made by your late Executive Council, to exercise and control the patronage of the crown for corrupt party purposes, we would condemn such a course, no matter by what party taken; acknowledging the principle, that the Sovereign is not the Sovereign of a party, but of the nation—the governor not the governor of a party, but of the colony—knowing no distinction in politics, and regarding only worth, ability and loyalty.

May Your Excellency be spared to accomplish your best intentions for the peace and welfare of this province, and may you add the pacification of Canada, to the list of obligations already conferred upon your country.

Adopted at a public meeting held at Belleville.

(Here follow 1596 signatures.)

December 23, 1843.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for your loyal address.

Your approval of my conduct is most welcome, and the generous sentiments which you express, demand my gratitude.

I have earnestly endeavoured, and shall continue to endeavour, to carry on the administration of the affairs of this province according to the plan of responsible government which I have found practically established; and with good sense and moderation in all parties, whose co-operation is necessary, I do not despair of success; but if there be any who suppose that the prerogative of the crown is to be surrendered, that the council is to be supreme, the authority of Her Majesty's government a nullity, and the Governor a mere tool in the hands of a party, all such are either blind, or must be aiming at the separation of this province from the mother country.

While however, the people of Canada are inspired with the loyal feelings which you express, the honour of the crown, the rights of the people, and the advantages which we enjoy under the protection of the British empire, will be preserved unimpaired; and by God's mercy may be handed down to your children's children from generation to generation. May these and all other blessings be your portion. My heartfelt thankfulness will ever attend the remembrance of this occasion of meeting you.

 DISTRICT OF SIMCOE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the District of Simcoe, in public meeting assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with expressions of unalterable attachment to the British constitution, and as it is and ever shall be our wish to preserve and transmit that great blessing unimpaired and inviolate to our children, we cannot but view the noble stand taken by Your Excellency, in defence of the just and undoubted prerogatives of the British crown against the unconstitutional encroachments of the late Executive Council, as essential to the rights and liberties of the British people.

While thus expressing our warm admiration and unlimited confidence in the principles by which Your Excellency has been guided in conducting the affairs of this province, permit us humbly to proffer to Your Excellency our sincere support

in furtherance of Your Excellency's recently expressed views.

(Signed on behalf of the meeting.)

EDMUND LALLY, *Chairman.*

Barrie, 22nd Dec., 1843.

ANSWER.

The sentiments that you entertain, gentlemen, regarding my conduct on the occasion which has called forth their expression, are most gratifying to me. The course which I then followed, my imperative duty to our gracious Sovereign, and my regard for the true interests of her Canadian people, alike required of me.

Your assurances of support, in maintaining unimpaired the constitutional prerogative of the crown, command my heartfelt thanks; and on your loyalty, good sense, and moderation, I unhesitatingly rely for co-operation, in my devoted efforts to promote the welfare and contentment of all classes in this favoured portion of Her Majesty's possessions.

DISTRICT OF PRINCE EDWARD.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the district of Prince Edward, beg leave to approach Your Excellency, to express the great satisfaction we feel in the firm course which Your Excellency has recently taken, by maintaining the royal prerogative in this colony.

We fully agree with Your Excellency, in the interpretation of the principle of responsible government; and are convinced that the safety of the province, and the continuance of the connection with the British empire, solely depend on the maintenance of the position which Your Excellency has adopted, feeling as we do, that our peace and safety, the security of our political institutions, and the welfare of our country, are alike involved in the present crisis.

We therefore beg to assure Your Excellency of our support, and take the liberty to add our firm conviction, that if Your Excellency shall deem it advisable to dissolve the present parliament, the appeal to the country will not be made in vain.

Here follow 830 signatures.

Prince Edward District,
26th Dec., 1843.

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my warmest thanks for the generous assurances and satisfactory sentiments which you have conveyed to me.

While the people of Canada entertain such feelings of loyalty and attachment to our connection with the mother country, I see every reason to hope that the administration of the government of this colony may be carried on with success, to the benefit and contentment of the people, and welfare of the country, without any violation of the principle of responsible government, and without the annihilation of the authority of the crown, which was lately attempted.

Trusting to the good sense and moderation of the present Parliament, and being unconscious of any act on my part, that would justify obstruction to the operations of Her Majesty's government, I have no present intention of an appeal to the people, and wish to avoid throwing the country into the state of excitement which would be produced by a general election before the period at which the parliament will regularly expire.

 DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the District of Newcastle, in public meeting assembled, beg with the utmost sincerity, to assure Your Excellency of our unalterable and unwavering loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, and of our grateful sense of the inestimable blessings which we enjoy under her mild and parental government.

We beg most respectfully to express to Your Excellency, our warm admiration and entire approval of the noble determination which you have avowed and manifested, at once to maintain the constitutional prerogatives of the crown, and uphold the rights and liberties of the people; we are convinced that a government administered upon these principles, cannot fail to strengthen the ties which bind us to the glorious empire of which we are, and ever shall be proud, to consider this country an integral part.

We humbly, but unequivocally deny, that the Executive Council which has recently been dissolved possessed our confidence, nor do we believe that it endeavoured to administer the government in conformity with the well understood

wishes of the people; on the contrary we are convinced that an immense majority of the intelligent and loyal portion of our population regarded a great part of its proceedings with distrust, disapprobation and alarm.

We beg sincerely to assure Your Excellency, that we are most anxious that our fellow subjects of French origin should share with us all the advantages resulting from a connection with the British empire, but we have a right to expect, and do expect, that they will cordially unite with us in promoting our mutual interests, and in supporting that government by which those interests are fostered and protected.

The constitutional authority of our gracious Sovereign, and the integrity of her empire, we pledge ourselves with devoted hearts, and if necessary, which we sincerely hope it will never be, with strong arms strenuously to uphold and resolutely to defend.

We fervently pray that He, who is the ruler over all Sovereigns and governors, will vouchsafe to Your Excellency long life, health and happiness, and that this province may long enjoy the benefits of your wisdom, justice and experience.

(Here follow 4810 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I thank you heartily, gentlemen, for this assurance of your loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, and of your sense of the blessings which you enjoy under Her Majesty's parental government.

Your approval of my conduct, and the confidence which you entertain as to the result of a government administered on the principles of maintaining the constitutional prerogative of the crown, and of upholding the rights and liberties of the people, are exceedingly gratifying; and if I should be an instrument in the hands of the Most High for strengthening the ties which bind us to the mother country, and for promoting the welfare and happiness of this colony, the most anxious wishes of my heart will be accomplished.

I rejoice to see your manifestation of an anxious desire that our fellow subjects of French origin should participate fully, in all the advantages of our connection with the British empire. My opinion has always been, that whatever may have been their origin, all Her Majesty's subjects are entitled to equal rights and benefits without any distinction. I have invariably followed the course prescribed by that conviction, and nothing will ever cause me to deviate from it.

Your devotion to the British constitution and the integrity of the British empire demand my warmest gratitude. While the people of Canada entertain the sentiments which you have expressed, I can never despair of her welfare, prosperity, and happiness.

The kindness of your personal feelings towards me, I shall ever remember with pride and thankfulness.

TOWNSHIP OF ELIZABETHTOWN.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the township of Elizabethtown, being the metropolitan township of the district of Johnstown, and the largest both in extent and population within the district, beg leave respectfully to approach Your Excellency at the present crisis in the political affairs of Canada, and to renew to our most gracious Sovereign, through Your Excellency as her representative, the assurance of our steady and unvarying attachment to Her Majesty's person and government.

For the last few years, this province was rapidly proceeding in a career of lavish expenditure, of factious animosity, and of increased taxation. To promote party views and party men our trade and commerce were neglected, emigration was checked, our revenue declined, and all classes of our people—the merchant and the mechanic—the agriculturist and the professional man—felt alike the stagnation of business and the pressure of the times. To us it is a source of the sincerest gratification, that through the wisdom, moderation and foresight of Your Excellency, our gloomiest hours have passed; and already beholding, as we do, the dawn of better days, we now look forward with hope and confidence to that social and political amalgamation of all our inhabitants, which will be the certain forerunner of prosperity, and the only true foundation upon which to rest the happiness of the people, the security of their liberties, and the honour and glory of the crown.

In the attempts recently made by certain members of Your Excellency's late Council, to wrest from your hands those time-honoured and well defined prerogatives which were committed to Your Excellency's keeping by our beloved Sovereign, we recognized in Your Excellency's conduct those noble and characteristic attributes of a truly British

heart — fidelity to the rights of the crown, justice to the opinions of the people, liberality to all, oppression to none.

To us it is a source of deep regret and mortification, that two of the members of the legislative assembly representing this district, should have so far neglected their duty and forfeited the trust reposed in them by their constituents, as to league themselves with those who have sought to embarrass Your Excellency's administration; but we trust the day is not now far distant, when the voice of the people will enable them to correct the evil which we regret, and to afford in the legislative assembly for the future that support to Your Excellency's government, which we view as not less essential to our own contentment and prosperity as a people, than to the permanent connection of this great province with the parent state.

That Your Excellency may be long spared in health to govern this colony, and that when you eventually retire from its administration, the union of the people and the prosperity of the country may best attest the wisdom of your policy and the blessings of your reign, is the fervent prayer of the inhabitants of Elizabethtown.

(Signed)

JAS. BEATLY POWELL, *Chairman.*
THOMAS R. HORTON, *Town Clerk.*

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my hearty thanks for the assurance conveyed to me in your loyal address, of your steady and unvarying attachment to our most gracious Sovereign, and of your support in my administration of the government entrusted by Her Majesty to my charge, as well as for the kind wishes which you express personally towards me.

It is highly satisfactory to me to learn that my defence of the prerogative of the crown against unconstitutional demands has your approval: and as the prerogative of the crown exists only for the good of the people, its maintenance will I trust ever prove conducive to the protection and preservation of the rights and liberties of the subject, with equal justice and advantage to all races, classes, creeds and parties.

While the people of Canada breathe the sentiments which you entertain, I shall not despair of the prosperity and happiness of this province, under the powerful shield of the British empire.

TOWNSHIP OF WHITBY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and faithful subjects, inhabitants of the township of Whitby, in the Home District, beg leave most respectfully to submit to Your Excellency this our address, containing the expression of our sentiments and feelings, in reference to the principles which have been expressed by Your Excellency, as to the nature and practical working of the constitution of this province.

That while we highly approve of the noble sentiments expressed by Your Excellency in Your Excellency's public declarations, that Your Excellency fully and entirely subscribes to the resolutions introduced into and adopted by the House of Assembly, with the knowledge and consent of Her Majesty's representative in this province, on the 3rd September, 1841, and that the government of the country can only be successfully and harmoniously carried on, by a due regard to the principles of those resolutions, and while we disclaim most emphatically any desire or wish to entrench, in the least degree, upon the just and necessary prerogatives of the crown, or prescribe to Your Excellency any line of conduct in the management of our local affairs, we as subjects of a British colony, possessing the powers of self government given to it by the parent state, in order to prevent the existence of any antagonist opinion between Your Excellency and us, in reference to the obvious meaning and practical working of those principles of responsibility in the management of our local affairs, as guaranteed and secured to us by the constitution and fully recognized in those important resolutions, the first of which in express words declares "that the head of the Executive Government in this province, being within the limits of his government, the representative of the Sovereign, is responsible alone to the imperial authority, but nevertheless the management of our local affairs can only be conducted by him, by and with the assistance, counsel and information of subordinate officers in the province," beg leave plainly, but respectfully to submit to Your Excellency, that it is our humble opinion, and we believe it to be strictly in accordance with the true intent and spirit of those resolutions, that the head of the Executive Government in this province, should be surrounded by a council composed of "subordinate officers" in the province, being gentlemen of sound and patriotic principles, known to

and possessing the confidence of the people, and of a majority of their representatives in parliament; to whom should be submitted by the representative of the crown here, for their "assistance, counsel and information" thereupon, every official act of the government connected with the administration of our local affairs, before its final consummation; and who should alone be immediately responsible to the people for every act of the government, while in office; and that any gentleman who would consent to accept the office of Executive Counsellor, without the full enjoyment and free and unrestricted exercise of the right and privilege to *advise* the head of the government in the administration of all our local affairs in this province, violates the fundamental principles of our constitution, and can never possess our confidence.

JOHN CAMPBELL, *Chairman.*

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, the expression of your sentiments and feelings conveyed to me in your address, with the respect which I shall always consider to be due to the declared opinions of any portion of the people of this province. It is on their good sense and good feeling, that I rely for the successful administration of the government committed to my charge by Her Majesty the Queen.

It is gratifying to me to learn that my conduct, in expressing my entire concurrence in the resolutions adopted by the House of Assembly, and introduced with the knowledge and concurrence of Her Majesty's representative in the province on the 3rd September, 1841, has your approval. I anticipate no difficulty in acting on those resolutions to the satisfaction of the people, provided that it be not attempted to reduce the Governor to the condition of a mere tool in the hands of a party; for every such attempt must tend to produce dissension and agitation, obstruct the course of public affairs, and endanger the stability of responsible government, by rendering its working impracticable.

TOWNSHIP OF DUNN.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the township of Dunn, in public meeting assembled, beg most respectfully to state to Your Excellency our unalterable assurances of devotion to our

beloved Queen, and deep conviction that the future prosperity and greatness of this country depend, humanly speaking, upon its intimate connection and harmonious union with Great Britain.

Such being our opinions, we have viewed with dismay the tendency of the policy pursued by your late advisers, which, in our opinion, evinced a systematic endeavour to sap the foundations of all British feeling and institutions amongst us, by an arbitrary and unsound legislation, and even render the crown subservient to their party purposes.

The wisdom of Europe, and the experience of ages, have concurred in declaring the British constitution to be as free from the controul of popular licentiousness on the one hand, as from the tyranny of arbitrary power on the other, and that the people living under its protection are secured in the enjoyment of every practicable freedom, consistent with the well-being of the community.

Therefore we trust, that the good sense and loyalty of the people of Canada will support your Excellency in the stand you have taken for their liberties, in declining to establish the precedent that they are to be trampled on as slaves, by whatever party may be in power.

We therefore tender to Your Excellency our humble but most cordial support; and viewing the just prerogative of the crown as inseparable from the true liberties of the people, we most respectfully approach Your Excellency, to congratulate you on the constitutional opposition you have evinced to insidious advisers.

(Here follow 99 signatures.)

Port Maitland, 28th Dec., 1843.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my cordial thanks for the gratifying assurance conveyed to me in your address, of your unalterable devotion to our beloved Queen, and of your conviction that the prosperity and greatness of this country depend on its intimate connection and harmonious union with the United Kingdom. Such feelings and sentiments will tend to perpetuate that connection and union, and I trust that by God's blessing they will be unassailable; and that the people of this colony will be proud to support the prerogative of the crown, as the crown will assuredly uphold the liberties and rights of the people.

For the personal kindness which you evince towards me, I cannot sufficiently express my acknowledgments.

TOWNSHIP OF COLCHESTER.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the township of Colchester, in the Western District, cannot at this peculiarly eventful crisis refrain from respectfully giving vent to our humble but warm admiration of the noble stand lately made by Your Excellency, in behalf of the inalienable prerogative of *the crown* on the one hand, and the just rights and true interests of *the people* on the other; and to assure Your Excellency of the hearty concurrence of the inhabitants of this remote section of our noble province, in the truly enlightened and statesmanlike view taken by Your Excellency, of the only course of responsible government suited to a loyal integral portion of the British empire.

Such being our sincere conviction, we feel it also our grateful duty to express our unbounded confidence in the wisdom and discretion of whatever measures Your Excellency may, as the highly revered representative of our gracious Sovereign, be led to adopt for the benefit of the country; and to assure Your Excellency that as in no quarter has Her Majesty more loyal and devoted subjects than in the remote Western District, so there are naturally none more so than the inhabitants of "*the loyalist settlement*" of the township of Colchester.

(Here follow 92 signatures.)

Colchester, 21st December, 1843.

ANSWER.

I thank you heartily, gentlemen, for the generous sentiments which you have expressed.

An address from the Loyalist Settlement of the township of Colchester, brings to mind those days of severe trial, when the ancestors of many of you, with devoted loyalty, sacrificed every worldly advantage in order to maintain inviolate their allegiance to the British crown. It is cheering to see their descendants rejoicing in the same devotion, and determined along with the other loyal inhabitants of the country of Canada, to preserve unimpaired our connection with the mother country.

With a population so disposed it will be delightful to me to co-operate for the prosperity of the colony, the contentment of the people, and the welfare and happiness of all classes; and among my most pleasing recollections of such feelings, I shall never forget the pleasure that I have derived from this

address from the loyalist settlement of the township of Colchester.

TOWNSHIPS OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWN.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the townships of Leeds and Lansdown in front, in the Johnstown District, desire to avail ourselves of the opportunity of being assembled in our annual township meeting, to address Your Excellency with the respectful assurances of our loyalty and attachment to our gracious Sovereign, of the high respect that we entertain for Your Excellency, and of our entire confidence in the disposition of Your Excellency to administer the government of this province solely with a view to its benefit.

We recognize the prerogative of the crown as forming an essential part of our glorious constitution, and feel that we should be unmindful of the blessings that we enjoy under it, did we fail heartily to support Your Excellency in resisting all attempts to circumscribe the constitutional exercise of the high duties committed to your charge by Her Majesty in this province; and we sincerely hope that the firm stand taken by your Excellency upon a recent occasion, may lead to the formation of a provincial administration, possessing alike the confidence of Your Excellency and of the people of this vast province.

Here follow 157 signatures.

ANSWER.

I thank you cordially, gentlemen, for your loyal address.

The assurance of your attachment to our gracious Sovereign is worthy of British subjects.

The confidence which you are pleased to repose in me is most gratifying, and does me great honour.

Your support in my endeavours to maintain unimpaired the prerogative of the crown, and the constitutional duties of my office, is of the greatest value, and will I trust conduce to the security of our happy relations with the mother country, to the welfare and prosperity of Canada, and to the strength and glory of the great empire of which this province is a splendid portion.

My earnest endeavours continue to be directed, not without hope of success, to the formation of a council which may possess the confidence of all classes of the people of this country.

TOWNSHIP OF MALDEN.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned Inhabitants of the township of Malden in the Western District, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with professions of loyalty to our Sovereign, and respect and esteem for her representative in this province; and to express to Your Excellency our entire concurrence in the views on the subject of responsible government, as expressed in Your Excellency's communication to the House of Assembly. The firm stand taken by Your Excellency to maintain the prerogative of the crown—well assured at the same time, that Your Excellency's government will be carried on according to the well understood wishes of the people, and upon that principle (so happily alluded to by Your Excellency) which will give to merit its reward, and at the same time render equal justice to all Her Majesty's subjects—meets with our warmest admiration and support; and we confidently rely upon the good sense of the people to support Your Excellency in maintaining inviolate the prerogative of the crown, and carrying out that policy which will unite us still more strongly to the mother country, and which will ensure lasting benefits to the country; and Your Excellency may rest assured of the support of the loyal inhabitants of this district, should an appeal be made to the voice of the people.

(Here follow 123 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my cordial thanks, for the assurance conveyed to me in your address, of your loyalty to our gracious Sovereign, of your kind feelings towards me, of your concurrence in the views which I have expressed to the House of Assembly, and of your determination to support Her Majesty's government.

You may be assured of my anxious desire and intention to carry on the administration of affairs according to the well understood wishes of the people, to reward merit, and to render equal justice to all Her Majesty's subjects; and it is highly gratifying to me to be informed by you, that the good sense of the people will uphold me in maintaining inviolate the prerogative of the crown, and in striving to unite this province more strongly to the mother country, by a sense of lasting benefit.

It is my wish to avoid the excitement throughout the

country, which an appeal to the people and a general election before the regular period would probably produce; trusting that the present parliament, from a conviction of my honest intentions, will give their aid to such measures, as with the advice and assistance of the Executive Council, I may adopt or propose, for the welfare and prosperity of the colony; and I anxiously hope that all parties may lay aside their political animosities, and live together in peace and harmony; rivaling one another only in charity and brotherly love.

INHABITANTS OF THE SOUTHERN DIVISION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF ADELAIDE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the said inhabitants, viewing the many inestimable advantages which the people of this province enjoy under Your Excellency's mild and efficient administration of the government, and on the occasion of Your Excellency's disallowing the late Executive Council to assume to themselves the prerogative of the crown, independent of Your Excellency's pleasure as Her Majesty's representative, in the nomination of persons to fill public office, an assumption which this meeting reprobate as unconstitutional. And while we are led to reflect on the cause which has influenced Your Excellency's determination in this respect, we have much reason to congratulate ourselves on the happy results which have arisen to this province; and we turn our expectations to Your Excellency's wisdom in the selection of a new council, to be formed of gentlemen who will respect the high office which Your Excellency holds as Her Majesty's representative, the exercise of the prerogatives of the crown, and the rights and privileges of Her Majesty's Canadian subjects.

This meeting takes this opportunity of conveying to Your Excellency the assurance of their devotion to Her Majesty's person and government; their determination to support by every means within their power Your Excellency's administration of the government, unshackled from unconstitutional interference; of veneration for the established provincial institutions under which we live, and of the beneficial prospects which await us from the public improvements now in progress in this district, emanating from Your Excellency's benevolent desire to render this province an important portion of the British empire.

We respectfully desire to convey to Your Excellency our heartfelt gratitude for the stand Your Excellency has taken in the affairs of this province, in preserving inviolate the prerogatives of the crown; our wishes for your health and happiness, and that you may live long in the continuance of the administration of the government, and in the sway of the destinies of this province.

(Signed on behalf of the meeting)

CHRISTOPHER BEER, *Chairman.*

RICHARD BROWNE, *Secretary.*

Katesville, 26th Dec., 1843.

ANSWER.

Gentlemen, your generous confidence in my administration of the affairs of this province demands my gratitude.

It was my bounden duty to resist an attempt which if successful would have rendered a party supreme, and the authority of the crown a nullity. Such an assumption you justly denounce as unconstitutional.

The prosperity of Canada is the sole aim of my endeavours. Relying on the co-operation and support of loyal and honest hearts, and with the advice and assistance of a council respecting alike the prerogative of the crown and the rights of the people, and possessing the confidence of the country, I shall not despair of attaining that righteous end.

I thank you cordially for the assurance of your devotion to Her Majesty's person and government, and of your support in the course which I have taken, and which it has been incumbent on me to pursue.

I rejoice to learn that you anticipate beneficial results from the public improvements now in progress in your district, and I trust that they may aid in developing to your comfort and advantage the vast natural resources of this important portion of the British empire.

TOWNSHIP OF ANDERDON.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the township of Anderdon, in the county of Essex, in the Western District, in public meeting assembled, beg leave to offer to Your Excellency assurances of our cordial approbation of the course Your Excellency has pursued, in accepting the resignation of the late Executive

Council, and to offer to Your Excellency the acknowledgment of loyal hearts for the determination evinced by Your Excellency to maintain inviolate the prerogative of the crown; we rest assured that the moderation and firmness which has characterised your Excellency's conduct with respect to the resignation of the late ministry, must meet with the entire support of every well-wisher of the country. Warmly admiring the candid statement made by Your Excellency of the differences which led to the resignation of the late Executive Council; we beg to assure Your Excellency of our warmest support, should an appeal be made to the suffrages of the people.

(On behalf of the meeting)

ALEX. BOWERMAN, *Chairman.*

JAMES FORTIER, *Secretary.*

ANSWER.

I thank you cordially, gentlemen, for your loyal address, for the assurance which it affords me of your support, and for the sentiments which you express, relating to my acceptance of the resignation of the gentlemen who have recently retired from the Executive Council.

The only alternative offered to me, was to subscribe to the extinction of Her Majesty's government, and surrender myself as a tool into the hands of a party, a position which I never can consent to occupy.

Determined to carry into effect the plan of responsible government established by the resolutions of September, 1841, I trust that the moderation and good sense of the parliament and the people, will enable me to do so, with benefit to the interests of all classes of the inhabitants of Canada.

I beg you to accept my grateful acknowledgments, for the frank and manly manner in which you have come forward to sustain the British crown.

TOWNSHIPS OF BRISTOL, CLARENDON AND
LITCHFIELD.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the townships of Bristol, Clarendon, and Litchfield, beg leave to address Your Excellency on the very important matter which has led to the resignation of Your Excellency's late advisers.

As British subjects, strong in our attachment to the principles of the British constitution, and entertaining a due regard for the rights of the crown, we cannot refrain from expressing our warm admiration and entire approval of the noble stand taken by Your Excellency, in opposition to the unconstitutional attempt of those advisers to coerce Your Excellency to surrender to them the prerogative of the crown, for the furtherance of their own party purposes.

We respectfully tender our humble support to Your Excellency, under the conviction that you will continue to uphold and maintain unimpaired Her Majesty's prerogative, as well as the rights and liberties of her loyal subjects in this province.

(Here follow 578 signatures.)

District of Sydenham, C. E.,
Dec. 22nd, 1843.

ANSWER.

I thank you, gentlemen, sincerely for the loyal feelings manifested by your address.

Your expressions of strong attachment to the British constitution, and of due regard for the rights of the crown, are worthy of British subjects, and your assurances of support and approval of the course which I have taken in resisting an unconstitutional demand, encourage me in my endeavours to promote the public good.

It will be my constant care to maintain unimpaired the prerogative of the crown, and with it the rights and liberties of the people of this province, which are still more dear to our gracious Sovereign, who regards as her greatest prerogative, the power of conferring benefits on her subjects.

TOWNSHIP OF NICHOL.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitant householders and freeholders of the township of Nichol, assembled at our annual meeting, seize the opportunity of humbly approaching Your Excellency to congratulate you on the commencement of a new year, and to renew our expression of loyalty to our gracious Queen and constitution, to Your Excellency as Her Majesty's representative, and our devoted attachment to the connection existing betwixt this province and the mother country.

On looking to the proceedings during the late session of parliament, we observe with the greatest satisfaction the determined stand Your Excellency has made against the illegitimate use of responsible government, and your determination to support the same in a constitutional manner, together with the prerogatives of the crown and its dignity. We expected nothing less, from the high character Your Excellency has maintained in the various situations of public trust which Your Excellency has filled; and we have no fear for the future, so long as we have the advantage of a head capable of deserving and of modifying the extremes of party spirit, and securing the well being of the province.

We are also happy of the opportunity this meeting affords, to record the high esteem we feel for Your Excellency's character; to assure Your Excellency, that at all times we shall be ready to shew our sincere attachment to the connection which exists with the mother country, and give our support to such men as Your Excellency may call to assist you in the government of the province.

Praying that the blessing of Him who cannot err may direct you in the selection.

(Signed in name, by appointment, and in presence of
the meeting at Fergus the 1st day of January, 1844)

M. DINGWALL FORDYCE, *Chairman.*
JAMES McQUEEN, *Clerk.*

ANSWER.

I thank you, gentlemen, cordially for your congratulations on the commencement of a new year, and for the assurance which your address conveys of your loyalty to our gracious Queen, and your devoted attachment to the connection existing between this colony and the mother country.

I thank you also for your favourable appreciation of my determination to maintain responsible government. Those are in reality the worst enemies of that system, who, by insisting on the degradation of the representative of the crown to the condition of a tool in the hands of a party, would render the attainment of their professed object impracticable, consistently with the preservation of our connection with the United Kingdom, and of our allegiance to our beloved Sovereign.

I thank you again, gentlemen, for your personal kindness towards me, and for your promise of support to such gentlemen as I may call to assist me in the government of the

province. In those who are at present members of the council I have entire confidence, and I trust that they, and those whom I may select in addition, will be deemed to merit the confidence of the parliament and the people, and afford efficient aid in promoting the welfare of the country.

COUNTY OF LEEDS.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Leeds, in public meeting openly and fairly convened by requisition from the High Sheriff, avail ourselves of the opportunity of declaring our firm attachment to the person and government of our most gracious Queen, and our unalterable determination at all hazards, and upon all circumstances, to maintain unimpaired the happy connection of this colony with the parent state.

As loyal subjects, it is to us a source of the deepest regret and mortification, to find that there is yet in this colony any portion of its inhabitants so ungrateful to Her Majesty, so unjust to her representative, and so forgetful of their own allegiance and duty, as to require from Your Excellency any stipulations with respect to the undoubted prerogative of the crown in the appointment to office, or to attempt to coerce Your Excellency, by requiring the royal sanction to acts of proscription and party malevolence.

The people of the county of Leeds will ever sustain Your Excellency in the maintenance of the just and undoubted prerogatives of the crown, believing them now to be, as experience has proved them at all times to have been, the surest guarantee for the liberties of the people.

We assure Your Excellency, that in resisting the demands lately made by certain members of Your Excellency's late Council, your Excellency's conduct most justly merits, and most cordially receives our full concurrence and approbation.

We beg further most respectfully to inform Your Excellency, that we regard all loyal and good subjects as fully and fairly entitled to participate in all the honours and emoluments of the state, without reference to their national origin, or their opinions, political or religious; conceiving as we do that no wise or paternal government would countenance party distinctions among its subjects, erect legal barriers to their onward course in the career of honour and usefulness, or dis-

qualify or degrade any portion of them from the enjoyment of any office to which their merits, their loyalty, their integrity or their talents might entitle them; and which offices ought never, in our opinion, to be prostituted to party purposes, but held forth as a reward to the virtuous and deserving of all classes.

For ourselves, we seek no right, privilege or immunity, beyond what is common to every loyal and good subject in Canada; we are opposed to all monopoly, to every species and description of exclusion and partiality; our aspirations are to see office and honour made the reward of merit, not of party—we desire the ascendancy of none, the equality of all; and, in the glorious task of political regeneration and magnanimity in healing the wounds of our distracted country, and in uniting all our population in the bonds of brotherhood and affection, we beg to assure Your Excellency that you will ever find a cordial concurrence in your sentiments, and an unfaltering support in your endeavours, from the intelligent and loyal inhabitants of the county of Leeds.

We embrace the present opportunity of expressing to Your Excellency our desire, that a dissolution of the present Parliament should take place, because in our opinion the majority of the present Legislative Assembly have most justly forfeited the confidence of their constituents.

Sincerely praying that Your Excellency may be long spared by an all-wise Providence in health and happiness to rule this noble province, and to dispense equal justice to all classes of the people,

We remain Your Excellency's most obedient servants.

Done in open meeting, assembled at Farmersville, in the said county, this 8th day of January, 1844.

DANIEL SHERWOOD, *Sheriff and Chairman.*

ANSWER.

I thank you cordially, gentlemen, for your loyal address.

It is highly gratifying to me, to receive the assurance of your firm attachment to the person and government of our most gracious Queen, and of your determination to maintain unimpaired the happy connection of this colony with the parent state.

I rejoice to hear, that in resisting unprecedented demands for stipulations regarding the royal prerogative, my conduct has your approval; and I am happy to express my entire concurrence in the sentiments which you have stated against all acts of proscription and party malevolence, and all monopoly,

exclusion, partiality, and ascendancy; as well as in favour of equal participation for all loyal and good subjects in all the honours and emoluments of the state, without reference to national origin, or religious or political opinions; and of the distribution of patronage as the reward of virtue and merit, and with a view to the efficacy of the public service, and not for party purposes or the purchase of influence.

Blessed indeed would be my lot in this transitory state of existence, if I should be so favoured as to be instrumental in healing the wounds of political distraction, and in uniting the population in the bonds of brotherhood and affection; of your kind wishes in this and other respects, I shall ever retain a grateful recollection.

TOWNSHIP OF WHITBY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the loyal inhabitants of the township of Whitby, in the Home District, and province of Canada West, in public meeting assembled, deem it to be our duty, and beg most respectfully, to address your Excellency in the present important crisis, to tender to you our humble, but firm support in the course of policy you have been pleased to adopt in relation to the subject of responsible government.

And feel confident, by the strength of mind and energy displayed by your Excellency in maintaining the dignity and prerogative of the crown, and your desire to do equal justice to all, appointing men of ability to places of trust in preference to others who probably have little to recommend them but their extreme partisan principles, will gain the hearts of a large majority of her Majesty's subjects in this province.

Allow us, therefore, one and all, to express our sincere attachment to our most gracious Sovereign, and desire to perpetuate that connexion with the mother country, which now so happily exists, and trust that this young but rising colony may long prosper under Your Excellency's administration.

JOHN FARQUHARSON, *Chairman.*

The above address was signed by 460 freholders and housekeepers.

Whitby, 1st February, 1844.

[After the address was forwarded to his Excellency, lists were sent in from the back parts of the township, containing 160 additional signatures.]

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for your loyal address. It is highly gratifying to me to learn that the principles on which I have acted, in relation to the great question recently agitated, have your approval and concurrence.

Your attachment to our most gracious Sovereign, and your desire to perpetuate the connexion of this colony with the mother country, are worthy of loyal subjects of the crown; and I am gratefully sensible of the value of those feelings which have led you to assure me of your support in my endeavours to promote the welfare of this noble portion of the British empire.

TOWN AND TOWNSHIP OF SANDWICH.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the town and township of Sandwich, in the Western District, beg leave most respectfully to approach Your Excellency with the expression of our continued loyalty and attachment to our most gracious and beloved Queen, and the tender of our heartfelt gratitude to Your Excellency for the noble stand Your Excellency has taken in defence of the just prerogative of the crown. We are fully convinced that the surrender of that prerogative to *any* political party, for party purposes, would prove the first step to a separation from our glorious and fostering mother country; an event deprecated by every loyal inhabitant of the province.

Fully satisfied that Your Excellency will continue to administer the government with a due regard to the rights and liberties of the people, upon the principles of constitutional responsibility, and with a firm determination to protect and maintain the sacred prerogative of the throne, we beg leave to tender Your Excellency the assurances of our cordial and unwavering support.

(Here follow 130 signatures.)

Sandwich, January 1, 1844.

ANSWER.

I derive, gentlemen, heartfelt satisfaction from your assurance of your continued loyalty and attachment to our most

gracious and beloved Queen, and of your approval of my conduct in defending the prerogative of the crown against the assaults of a party. I entirely concur in your opinion that the surrender of the prerogative to a party, for party purposes, would be a step towards a separation from the mother country, which the loyal inhabitants of the province must deeply deprecate, and will never I trust permit.

Fully determined to administer the government with a devoted regard to the rights and liberties of the people, on the principle of constitutional responsibility, I accept the promise of your cordial and unwavering support with pride and gratitude.

COUNTY OF GRENVILLE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the freeholders of the county of Grenville, assembled in public meeting by the high sheriff of the district, beg leave to approach Your Excellency, assuring you of our entire approval of the principles enunciated in Your Excellency's correspondence with the members of your late Executive Council, wherein the principles of responsible or representative government are fully admitted, while the prerogatives of the crown are equally secured from invasion.

The people of the county of Grenville, ever jealous of popular rights, can never sanction an encroachment upon the rights of others, and least and last of all, upon the rights of their Sovereign; and we assure Your Excellency, that the representatives of the people in the Legislative Assembly of this province, in voting the confidence of parliament to the members of Your Excellency's late Executive Council, because they persisted in requiring Your Excellency, as the representative of the crown, to enter into conditions as to the future exercise of the royal patronage, have forfeited the confidence of their constituents, and are not to be understood as representing their sentiments.

We have further to communicate to Your Excellency, in this public manner, our decided opposition to all laws of a proscriptive nature; we deem them unjust in principle and unwise in policy. We conceive all loyal and good subjects entitled to *equal rights*, and we view with abhorrence all attempts that may be made by the executive to raise up party disqualifications in the colony.

In the late war between Great Britain and the United

States of America, in the years 1812 and 1813, no county in Canada was more conspicuous for loyalty or more distinguished for fidelity to the British crown, than the county of Grenville; its inhabitants have not since faltered in their allegiance to the Sovereign of Britain; and in now rallying around Your Excellency, as the representative of that sovereign, they feel that they are but performing a sacred duty which in days of greater peril they did not shrink from fulfilling, and a duty which they will feel a pride and pleasure in discharging, whenever called by Your Excellency to its performance.

On behalf of the inhabitants of the county of Grenville, assembled in public meeting at North Augusta, in the said county, this 9th day of January, 1844.

(Signed) JOHN L. READ, J. P., *Chairman.*
ROBERT HEADLAM, *Secretary.*

ANSWER.

I receive, gent'lemen, with a high degree of satisfaction, the expression of your approval of the principles by which I have been guided in defending the prerogative of the crown, and adhering to the system of responsible government, of which the essential character can never be departed from without public injury. But when it is attempted to reduce the Governor to the condition of a tool in the hands of a party, not only is the essential character of responsible government thrust out of sight, but the system itself is brought into jeopardy by its operations being rendered impracticable.

Loyal hearts like yours, gentlemen, feel that the rights of the crown and the rights of the people go hand in hand, and support and uphold each other.

I fully concur in your opposition to all laws of a proscriptive nature, and all party disqualifications, as unjust in principle and unwise in policy, being of opinion with you, that all loyal and good subjects are entitled to equal rights.

I shall ever cherish the remembrance of your approved loyalty and devotion to your Queen and country, with heartfelt thankfulness.

TOWNSHIP OF MOZA.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned resident freeholders and householders of the township of Moza, in the district of London,

and province of Canada, beg leave most humbly to approach Your Excellency with renewed assurances of devoted loyalty to our beloved Sovereign the Queen, and ardent attachment to the British constitution.

We beg respectfully to tender to Your Excellency our heartfelt thanks, and to express our unqualified approbation and admiration of the firm and constitutional resistance made by Your Excellency, against the late insidious attempts of the majority of your late Executive Council to wrest from Your Excellency, as the representative of our Sovereign, the universally admitted prerogative of the crown to appoint its own servants.

We are satisfied that to defend the recognized prerogatives of the crown is, in other words, to maintain the rights and privileges of the people; seeing that the prerogatives of the crown are exercised for the benefit of the people. We therefore most cheerfully tender to Your Excellency our cordial though feeble aid and support, for the manly and noble stand you have taken to defend our rights and liberties, by maintaining the undoubted prerogative of the crown; and we have no doubt that Your Excellency's refusal to concede such unconstitutional demands, will be hailed with delight by an overwhelming majority of the inhabitants of this province.

We unhesitatingly concur with Your Excellency in the view you have taken and the course you have pursued in refusing the royal assent to the "Secret Societies Bill," which you have aptly designated as an "arbitrary and unwise measure."

There were several other measures proposed by the late Executive Council of which we highly disapproved; and many of their recommendations for appointments to offices of trust, honour and emolument, were dictated more by political partizanship and parliamentary support, than the fitness for office of the persons so recommended.

We hail with deep satisfaction Your Excellency's declaration that you are resolved to govern this province on British principles of impartiality and justice, without distinction of races or political party; and that the patronage of the crown is to be exercised without regard to party or parliamentary influence.

It is our earnest prayer that Your Excellency, from your well known impartiality, firmness and wisdom, may under Divine Providence be enabled fully to accomplish the humane and patriotic object of your mission to this province; and be equally successful as you have been elsewhere, in restoring

tranquillity to its inhabitants,—too long torn and distracted by political differences and party rancour. And we confidently trust that, under Your Excellency's just and upright government, they will become a prosperous, happy and contented people,—firmly and unalterably attached to British connection and monarchical principles.

(Here follow 92 signatures.)

Moza, 1st January, 1844.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with great satisfaction your expression of the loyal and constitutional sentiments conveyed in your address, and I thank you cordially for the generous assurance of confidence and support which it contains.

I shall persevere in my endeavours to promote the welfare of Canada; and rely for success on the good sense and good feeling of all who, like yourselves, estimate our connection with the mother country as fraught with benefits and blessings to this province, and who desire that it may continue to be an integral portion of the British empire, in allegiance to our gracious and beneficent Sovereign.

VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP OF SARNIA.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned, Her Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects of the village and township of Sarnia, beg most humbly to approach Your Excellency at this important crisis, and renew our assurances of deep confidence in your policy. We pledge ourselves to support, to the utmost of our limited power, the constitutional stand Your Excellency has taken against the would be usurpation of a party.

British connection, British honour, British principle, the British constitution, are the extent of our fondest wishes, the source of our pride and glory. For them and for you, the representative of Her Majesty, the supporter and promoter of all we have above expressed, we are now ready and ever shall be to devote our best and firmest energies.

May we beg Your Excellency to rely upon the firm and uncompromising support of all those who here do with deep respect declare themselves

Your Excellency's faithful and obedient servants.

(Here follow 32 signatures.)

Port Sarnia, 3rd January, 1844.

ANSWER.

I receive with great satisfaction, gentlemen, your loyal and hearty address, and thank you cordially for the assurances of support which you convey to me.

The truly British feelings which you express, and the generous confidence which you manifest, will not I trust be entertained in vain. It shall be my constant endeavour to give you the best return in my power, by devoting myself to your welfare and happiness.

TOWNSHIP OF PLYMPTON.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the township of Plympton, Western District, in annual township meeting assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency, to express our admiration at the well timed and manly stand taken in defence of our revered constitution, on the attack recently made upon one of its first principles.

Glorying as we do in the name of British subjects, we cannot but feel indignant at any attempt to embarrass Your Excellency's administration of the government, or loosen the bonds of unity between us and the parent state. We hail with unfeigned satisfaction Your Excellency's express determination to "devote yourself to the service of this province; "to endeavor to promote the prosperity and happiness of "every class of its inhabitants, and to advance the welfare of the people;" such intentions on the part of Your Excellency command our gratitude and claim our confidence; while thus constitutionally governed, the dignity and prerogative of the crown maintained on the one hand, and the just rights and privileges of the subject on the other, it will ever be our pride—as it is our inclination and duty—to tender our humble support, with the assurance of a firm determination to uphold the administration of Your Excellency, as the representative of our beloved Queen.

Distant as this hitherto neglected township is from the present seat of government, we feel deep regret at the proposed removal of it to a still greater distance, but trust to see the evil averted by the wisdom and justice of the imperial government.

That circumstances over which Your Excellency had no

controul, should have prevented the completion of the new "Municipal Bill," is a disappointment to our hopes; feeling confident that it was calculated to advance the present improvement and future prosperity of this township, and all others similarly circumstanced.

(Signed) ROBERT WATSON, *Chairman.*
JOHN FISHER, *Town Clerk.*

Errol, 1st January, 1844.

ANSWER.

It is a high satisfaction to me, gentlemen, to receive the expression of the loyal and generous sentiments conveyed in your address; and I thank you cordially for the assurance which it affords of your support in my administration of the government.

It is my earnest desire to promote the comfort of the people and the welfare and happiness of the province, and my best endeavours will be unremittingly devoted to those ends.

On the question of the seat of government, to which you allude, Her Majesty's government having declined to determine that question without the advice of the Legislative Houses of this province, and having received that advice, and afterwards decided, I should, I think, deceive you, were I to hold out any expectation that the decision so formed can be otherwise than conclusive.

I join you in regretting, that the late session of the provincial parliament closed without the completion of the Municipal Bill. I did all in my power to prevent an abrupt termination while any measure desired by the country was pending; but as you are aware, I was unsuccessful.

Accept my fervent wishes for the improvement and prosperity of your township, and for every other benefit that you can desire.

TOWNSHIP OF SCARBOROUGH.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the loyal inhabitants of the township of Scarborough, have unanimously agreed to address Your Excellency, on the subject of the late resignation of the Executive Council of this province, and not only to express our approval of your conduct in accepting the resignation of the aforesaid Executive Council, but we have likewise to congratulate Your Excellency as well as the province on that happy event,

for clear definitions produce mutual understandings. At the same time, we beg leave to assure Your Excellency, that we are truly sorry to hear of any political disagreement that may have a tendency to destroy the harmony so necessary to the prosperity of Canada. We had fondly imagined that the political dissensions were drawing to an end, that have so long and so violently agitated this portion of British North America. But as the inordinate love of power appears still to be one of the most restless qualities of the human mind, agitation is likely to continue to operate as perniciously as formerly; therefore we, along with others who like ourselves wish for peace, can only bewail the evil consequences of political agitation. In the mean time, we beg leave to express to Your Excellency our entire approbation of your conduct in maintaining your prerogative as the representative of the British crown, in resisting the unconstitutional claim of the late Executive Council of Canada in their presumptuous attempt to dictate to Your Excellency, or in plain language, in their attempt to usurp and monopolize the patronage of the crown. Our reformers, as they call themselves, have long and broadly declared that a model of the British constitution here in Canada is all that they ever contended for, and with that boon they have said they would rest contented. Now every individual at all acquainted with the principles of the British constitution must know, that the execution of the laws, as well as appointments to every official situation under the British government, is directly or indirectly the gift of the crown; and in bestowing those official appointments the crown or the Sovereign may or may not consult the ministry; that is clearly understood to be a matter of choice which rests entirely with the Sovereign, and we have yet to learn, that any ministry of Great Britain ever laid claim to the patronage of the crown.

We likewise beg leave to assure Your Excellency, that we are happy to see the royal clemency extended to all those who, in their unreflecting moments, had joined a conspiracy against the British government, the evil consequences of which they very probably did not fully comprehend. Great Britain is powerful; she can afford to be generous, and she ought to be so; to pardon the guilty who repent of their crimes is meritorious, and in unison with the dictates of humanity as well as of Heaven. Much has been said about Your Excellency's reconciling party animosities in this agitated province, a task which we do not think will be a difficult one, for with those men who conspired against British dominion in

Canada we have not, nor ever had, any private quarrel. They may be, and frequently are, otherwise worthy men and good neighbours, although they did not think politically like us. We opposed them in obedience to the call of the government of this province, because they as rebels marched in array against the supremacy of Great Britain, under which we lived contented, and which we consider it our duty to defend. The rebellion was a quarrel between the rebels and the British Government, in which we, the loyal party, were innocently involved, and afterwards strangely treated; and if the government of Great Britain believes that we acted unconstitutionally, they have only to say so, and we will perhaps be more careful in future. We have no wish to make a merit of our loyalty; we did no more than we conceived to be our duty, and we are willing to forgive the past and forget it, if we can; but we are unwilling to see the prerogative of Your Excellency usurped, and public patronage distributed as it lately has been, for party purposes. That the patronage which of right belongs to Your Excellency has of late throughout this province been made subservient to party purposes, is a luminous fact, which no darkness can veil and no sophistry can obscure. We are therefore happy to see that Your Excellency has ultimately made a stand against future encroachments on your prerogative. We further beg leave to assure Your Excellency, that we are not in the habit of using those stereotype expressions of applause so frequently bestowed on persons in power, but we offer Your Excellency our dutiful respect as the representative of our Sovereign, ever ready and ever willing to the extent of our power to support you in constitutionally administering the laws of this British province. Finally, we beg leave to assure Your Excellency, that you may rely on our unalterable devotion to the British connexion, because Great Britain contains the birth-place of many of us, the homes of our kindred, the graves of our fathers, and the scenes of our early amusements, the remembrance of which is too deeply written in our hearts ever to be effaced.

(Signed) JOHN TORRENCE, *Chairman.*

Scarborough, 15th January, 1844.

ANSWER.

I have received, gentlemen, with great satisfaction your loyal address.

It is highly gratifying to me to be assured of your approval of my conduct.

With you I deeply deplore the existence of any political disagreement that may tend to disturb the harmony which it was the most anxious wish of my heart to see established. Not only was I reluctant to come to a rupture with my late council, but I forbore much in order to avoid it.

Your complaint of the distribution of the patronage of the crown for party purposes, during the time when the gentlemen of the late Executive Council were in office, bears testimony to the extreme attention which, whether I was right or wrong in so doing, I paid to their recommendations; and yet, strange to say, while I have been accused of subserviency to their party exclusiveness, the alleged ground of their resignation was, that I presumed to exercise my own discretion in the exercise of that branch of the royal prerogative; and on that pretence alone they and their partisans have since endeavoured to excite the people to personal hostility against me, by unfounded assertions of my denial of that system of responsible government, to which I have repeatedly declared my adherence.

While, however, the people of Canada entertain, as I trust they generally do, the loyal and patriotic feelings which you cherish, I cannot suppose that they will allow Her Majesty's government to be obstructed, and the good of the country to be sacrificed, by the influence of such gross and palpable misrepresentations.

I rejoice to learn, that you advocate the extension of the royal mercy to those unfortunate men who were formerly engaged in rebellion against the crown. It has always been my anxious desire that the recollection of past offences should be obliterated; and I have been incessantly engaged since my arrival in Canada in promoting that good work, either by my own act, when it was within my competency to pardon, or by forwarding applications to Her Majesty's government when the case was beyond my own reach. Her Majesty delights in the twice blessed exercise of mercy. Every petition hitherto submitted has been successful; and I have no doubt that in a short time all the advantages that could have been obtained from a general amnesty will be realized in both sections of the province, by the individual pardons granted to those who were transported to the penal colonies, and by their happy return to their families and homes.

While I earnestly exert myself to bury in oblivion the recollection of offences, I see no rational ground for forgetting the loyalty of those who stood forth in defence of their Queen and country in the hour of need, and I shall ever

regard such services as entitled to gratitude and honourable reward.

Accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks for the assurance of your support; and my sincere admiration of your devotion to British connexion, and of your unalterable attachment to the land of your fathers.

TOWNSHIP OF MONO.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the township of Mono, in the district of Simcoe, being assembled at our annual township meeting, do take this opportunity of publicly expressing our sincere thanks to Your Excellency for the loyal and manly stand which Your Excellency has made against the unconstitutional encroachments of the late Executive Council; such encroachments are looked upon by the inhabitants of this section of the country as the forerunner of a separation of this country from the parent state, which most probably would soon be the case had Your Excellency submitted to their unreasonable demands.

We assure Your Excellency, that the inhabitants of this township are Britons both by birth and principles, and zealously attached to our most gracious Sovereign the Queen and her government; and will, as long as the blood flows in our veins, retain our connexion with the parent state, and will always be ready at any emergency to rally round Your Excellency's person and government so long as Your Excellency will maintain inviolate the prerogative of the British crown against foreign aggression, or domestic dissension and rebellion.

GEO. McMANUS, *Chairman.*

SAMUEL ATKINSON, *Township Clerk.*

Mono, 2nd January, 1844.

ANSWER.

I rejoice, gentlemen, with great satisfaction in the loyal sentiments expressed in your address, and thank you heartily for your generous confidence and support.

It shall be my study to render you comfortable and happy; and while Her Majesty our gracious Sovereign has subjects in Canada, animated by the feelings of which you are justly proud, I cannot doubt that our connection with the mother

country will be a lasting source of mutual benefit and prosperity. God bless you all.

GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned warden and councillors of the Gore District, not in District Council assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency in the present exigency of our public affairs, with sentiments of the highest respect and esteem towards Your Excellency, and with feelings of the most ardent attachment to Her Majesty's person and government; and with the most lively sense of the important duty we owe to our Sovereign in using every endeavour to perpetuate, in bonds of an enduring attachment, the union happily existing between this colony and the great empire of which it forms a part.

Knowing the high and honourable reputation Your Excellency has sustained as a statesman, and as a wise, liberal and enlightened governor, in other parts of Her Majesty's dominions, we are led to believe that Your Excellency has been misled and misinformed by irresponsible and unconstitutional advisers, in regard to the true state of public opinion, upon that great and important constitutional principle of government, involved in the question which led to the resignation of the late Executive Council. We therefore humbly assure Your Excellency, representing as we do various townships in this district, and being intimately acquainted with the views, feelings and wishes of the several constituencies we have the honour to represent, that public opinion in this district, and we believe throughout the length and breadth of Canada, will fully sustain the late Executive Council in the stand they have taken and the views they have expressed, in relation to colonial administration under the principle of responsible government, as emanated and set forth in the resolutions of the Assembly of September, 1841, and practically carried into operation under Your Excellency's late lamented predecessors, Lord Sydenham and Sir Charles Bagot. The late Executive Council, we believe, have taken their stand on the plainly defined and easily understood principles of the British constitution; and we beg to assure Your Excellency that nothing can so much secure and advance the great public interests of this large province, or promote public peace and tranquillity, as well as strengthen the loyalty and attachment

of the people to the crown of Great Britain, as a full participation in all the rights and privileges of Britons, in a perfect recognition in the administration of our affairs of that principle—the responsibility of the ministers of the crown to the representatives of the people.

In the absence from Your Excellency of constitutional advisers, we submit this address, believing that Your Excellency only requires to know the true state of public opinion and the real feelings of the country, to carry out the gracious declaration of Her Majesty, of her wish and determination that the government in Canada should be administered according to the well understood wishes and interests of the people.

(Signed)

JOHN WETENHALL,

And 15 others.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with great satisfaction the assurance of your attachment to Her Majesty's person and government, and of your desire to perpetuate the union happily existing between this colony and the great empire of which it forms a part; and I thank you for your courteous expression of personal regard towards myself.

Before I reply to the substance of your address, I must endeavour to remove some erroneous impressions by which it seems to have been dictated.

You suppose me to have been misled by certain imaginary beings, whom you designate as irresponsible and unconstitutional advisers. I am not aware of their existence.

You offer me your opinions, in the absence from me, as you say, of constitutional advisers, whereas I have them in the Executive Council.

You speak of the resolutions of September, 1841, as having been exclusively carried into operation under my lamented predecessors; but in no administration have they been so thoroughly carried into operation as in mine.

The substance of your address relates to the resignation of certain members of the late Executive Council, and to the question of responsible government, which you conceive to be involved in that proceeding.

The resignation of those gentlemen proceeded from my refusing to agree to certain stipulations which it was unconstitutional for them to demand, and a compliance with which was impossible on my part, as, in my judgment, it would have involved a surrender of the patronage of the crown to

them for party purposes, an act to which I could never agree. In no other respect was the question of responsible government involved in their resignation.

With reference to your views of responsible government, I cannot tell you how far I concur in them without knowing your meaning, which is not distinctly stated.

If you mean that the Governor is to have no exercise of his own judgment in the administration of the government, and is to be a mere tool in the hands of the Council, then I totally disagree with you. That is a condition to which I can never submit, and which Her Majesty's government, in my opinion, never can sanction.

If you mean that every word and deed of the Governor is to be previously submitted for the advice of the Council, then you propose what, besides being unnecessary and useless, is utterly impossible consistently with the due despatch of business.

If you mean that the patronage of the crown is to be surrendered for exclusive party purposes to the Council, instead of being distributed to reward merit, to meet just claims, and to promote the efficiency of the public service, then we are again at issue. Such a surrender of the prerogative of the crown is, in my opinion, incompatible with the existence of a British colony.

If you mean that the Governor is an irresponsible officer, who can, without responsibility, adopt the advice of the council, then you are, I conceive, entirely in error. The undisputed functions of the Governor are such, that he is not only one of the hardest worked servants of the colony, but also has more responsibilities than any other officer in it. He is responsible to the crown and the parliament, and the people of the mother country, for every act that he performs, or suffers to be done, whether it originates with himself or is adopted on the advice of others. He could not divest himself of that responsibility by pleading the advice of the Council. He is also virtually responsible to the people of this colony, and practically more so than even to the mother country. Every day proves it, and no resolutions can make it otherwise.

But if, instead of meaning any of the above stated impossibilities, you mean that the government should be administered according to the well understood wishes and interests of the people; that the resolutions of September, 1841, should be faithfully adhered to; that it should be competent to the council to offer advice on all occasions, whether as to patronage or otherwise; and that the Governor should receive it with the

attention due to his constitutional advisers; and consult with them in all cases of adequate importance; that there should be a cordial co-operation and sympathy between him and them; that the Council should be responsible to the Provincial Parliament and the people; and that when the acts of the Governor are such as they do not choose to be responsible for, they should be at liberty to resign; then I entirely agree with you, and see no impracticability in carrying on responsible government in a colony on that footing, provided that the respective parties engaged in the undertaking be guided by moderation, honest purpose, common sense, and equitable minds devoid of party spirit.

As you have considerably tendered to me your advice in the supposition that I stood in need of it, I trust that I may, without offence, offer some counsel in return.

You have all the essentials of responsible government.—Keep it. Cling to it. Do not throw it away by grasping at impossibilities. Do not lose the substance by snatching at a shadow.

You desire to perpetuate your union with the British empire. Do not imagine that this purpose can be promoted by obstructing Her Majesty's government, in order to reduce its authority to a nullity. You have every privilege freely granted that is compatible with the maintenance of that union. Her Majesty's government has no inclination to exercise any unnecessary interference in your local affairs; but can never consent to the prostration of the honour and dignity of the crown, and I cannot be the traitor that would sign the death warrant of British connection.

Cherish responsible government and British connection. Let them work together in harmony and unison, in a practicable manner. Let no man put them asunder. But do not pursue a course that must destroy one or the other, or both.

This advice is offered with perfect sincerity by a friend, whose only interest in the counsel that he gives is an anxious desire to secure the welfare of Canada and the integrity of the British empire.

GORE DISTRICT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, the freeholders and inhabitants of the district of Gore, in public meeting assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with

the expression of our unfailling and unabated attachment to the person of our gracious and beloved Sovereign, of our determination to maintain inviolate the sacred rights of her crown and dignity, and of our sincere respect for Your Excellency as her representative in this province.

Having viewed with feelings of dismay and apprehension, the arduous struggle which Your Excellency has had to sustain against your late Executive Council, in the attempts to usurp the prerogative of the crown, placed by the Queen in your hands; to force through the legislature, for partizan purposes, bills subversive of the dearest rights and liberties of the people, and odious and inquisitorial in character; it is with intense delight, we have seen you assert the dignity of your high station, in successfully resisting the unconstitutional encroachments of the late members of your Executive Council, and your noble assertion of British supremacy within the limits of your government.

We beg to assure Your Excellency, that the definition of the doctrine of responsible government, expressed in your message to the House of Assembly, on Wednesday, the 29th of November last, has our decided approbation, and we would declare to Your Excellency our unaltered confidence in your administration of the government of this province, as well as of the principles by which you have been guided in conducting that government.

Firmly convinced, that it is on the loyal and conservative body of the people the royal authority can safely rest, in this country, we hail with deep emotions of joy and gratitude Your Excellency's declaration to the yeomen of Frontenac, that "It is a comfort to you to receive the assurance of their
 " fervent love for the British constitution, and of their determination to maintain and perpetuate their connexion with
 " the mother country; for that on such feelings and dispositions, the happiness and prosperity of Canada appear to you
 " to depend;" and further, that "loyalty is not a calculating
 " process, but a feeling of the heart, and that it is on such
 " hearts that Your Excellency relies for the safety and
 " welfare of this portion of the dominions of our beloved and
 " gracious Queen."

Such hearts are ours; to those noble sentiments we give our unanimous and unqualified assent. We humbly tender to Your Excellency our sincere support in your efforts to maintain them, and we feel confident, that Your Excellency's wise and vigorous conduct will, under Providence, enable you to effect the great object of your mission to our shores, and to

carry out every measure calculated to promote the happiness of the people committed to your care.

Our most fervent and confident hope is, that your Excellency will proceed in the course of policy you have avowed, with that dignity, moderation, and ability, for which, as a statesman, you are so eminently distinguished; we are satisfied, that in maintaining the prerogative of the crown, you will ever consider it a sacred deposit, held in trust for the benefit of the people, and that Your Excellency will at all times protect every class of her Majesty's loyal Canadian subjects in their just rights and privileges.

In the support of these principles and opinions, the loyal men of Gore will always be found, as they always have been in more perilous times, "Ready, aye ready;" they will rally round the royal standard of the glorious empire of which they are proud to form an integral part; they will follow that standard in Your Excellency's hand, wherever you will lead them, and then may "God defend the right," and save the Queen.

(Signed) E. CARTWRIGHT THOMAS, *Chairman.*

Hamilton, Jan., 1844.

ANSWER.

I find it difficult, gentlemen, to reply in adequate language to the glowing sentiments of loyalty and devotion to our gracious Sovereign, which pervade your animated address. I can only say, that I value them most highly; that my heart fully responds to them, and that I am grateful to you for the noble feelings which you entertain.

I receive most thankfully your assurance of support in my endeavours to carry out the plan of responsible government, established in this colony by the resolutions of September, 1841, in a practical manner; so as to combine in concordant unison and preservation the prerogative of the crown, the privileges of parliament, and the rights, liberties, and interests of the people.

You may always rely on my considering the charge confided to me by the crown as a sacred trust for the benefit of the people, and for the equal protection of Her Majesty's loyal Canadian subjects. I should incur Her Majesty's high displeasure, and be a most unworthy representative of her love for her people, were I to do otherwise.

On my part I shall rely on your steady co-operation in maintaining the union of Canada with the United Kingdom,

and in promoting the welfare of this province, and the happiness of its inhabitants, by all means in my power. If more active measures were needed, your gallant and heroic conduct in times of peril would prove to me that I might confidently depend on your undaunted courage and devoted spirit for every effort that the energy of man is capable of producing; but God forbid, that I should live to see the peace and harmony of this province disturbed by the hateful tumults of war and discord. I hope and trust that the only contest we shall ever have to sustain together, will be the pacific one in which we are now engaged, in defence of constitutional government and British connexion; and that the good sense and the good feeling of this country will soon terminate that by unanimity in a righteous cause.

Again, gentlemen, permit me to express my unbounded thanks for your generous assurance of confidence and support.

MOHAWK INDIANS OF THE BAY OF QUINTE.

Father,

Our fathers have told us that after the treaty between the Six Nations Confederacy (of which we Mohawks formed a part) and the crown of Great Britain, it was the practice of our chiefs to wait upon the Governors, on their arrival in America, to exchange assurances of mutual friendship and protection. At that time our nation was powerful and warlike, and our friendship was worth having; but now, like small fragments of ice floating in the lake at the mercy of the winds and waves, which are rapidly wasting us, we claim our ancient privilege of approaching you,—not as of old to offer you the hand of protection, but to ask it of you.

We know, Father, it is not our business to meddle in politics, or to condemn any party among our white brethren, but when we see what is taking place around us, we cannot help feeling concerned for the safety of ourselves and that of the country. The question which occupies the minds of our white brethren, seems to be simply this—Is this country to remain under the protection and government of the Queen, or is it to become one of the United States? In this question no people are more interested than ourselves—the helpless children of the soil,—and we hope we will not be considered officious in addressing you on this subject, before you remove far away from us.

A few of those who were driven from their pleasant homes and fruitful corn-fields in the valley of the Mohawk yet survive, and their sufferings and losses are too fresh in our minds to require a repetition. Yet it would seem the object of some thoughtless and discontented people among us to bring about similar troubles,—and unless, Father, you can soon put out the kindling flame, we fear the Red men will again be driven from our loved homes to seek a new place of refuge; but where is that now to be found on this side of the grave?

One of the subjects which has lately disturbed the Province has been the removal of the *Great Council fire* from *Katarocque* to some hundred miles nearer the sun's rising. We would not wish to interfere in any arrangement that is thought good for the country, but, Father, it makes us sad to see you removing from the heart of the country to the sea shore, lest it should happen as it did in former times,—wearied with the troubles of the country, you should haul down the Queen's flag, and sail away from us altogether.

We have also heard with sorrow that some of our white brethren wish to tie up the hands of our gracious Mother the Queen in this country. If we may be allowed to speak on the subject we would say to them,—Where will you find a gentler hand to hold the reins? Do not tie up even her little finger—let both hands be free, that she may busy them in heaping benefits upon us.

Father,—Under the protecting care of the British government, we and our kindred tribes are beginning to enjoy the blessings of religion and civilization, and it is our earnest wish that these benefits may be increased to our children. Whatever our white brethren may think, we feel assured that our only hope of safety, lies in the connection between this country and Great Britain. It rejoices us therefore to hear that you, Father, are determined to do all in your power to continue that happy connection. We implore our white brethren of all parties to reflect upon past misfortunes, to lay aside their jealous feelings before it is too late, and, joining hand and heart, assist you in your benevolent endeavours to make this a prosperous and loyal country.

We pray the Great Spirit long to spare our gracious Mother and yourself to govern us, and we beg to assure you that we love you both, and are at all times devoted to your service.

Tyendenaga, 16th January, 1844.

ANSWER.

I receive, my children, your affectionate address with feelings of great pleasure and satisfaction.

Your love and attachment to our gracious Queen are such as loyal and faithful hearts delight to entertain; and you may be sure that they will be fondly estimated in her maternal bosom.

I trust that there is no ground to fear that you will ever lose Her Majesty's powerful protection, or be in any danger of being driven from the abodes which you now occupy. The past misfortunes of your race, and your loyal devotion and constancy, must interest every generous and grateful feeling in your behalf. You have, I hope, ages of happiness before you, and God forbid that it should be disturbed.

Continue with confidence to apply yourselves to the improvement of your possessions, and the moral and religious instruction of your children; and the Almighty Father, who looks with favour on the meek and the good, will bless and reward you.

Your kind thoughts towards me, I shall ever cherish with thankful recollection.

 TOWN OF NIAGARA—FIRST ADDRESS.

May it please Your Excellency,

The inhabitants of the town of Niagara, in public meeting assembled, beg leave respectfully to address Your Excellency on the subject of the causes which led to the resignation of Your Excellency's late ministry, which we, in common with our fellow subjects throughout the province, regard as involving constitutional principles of vast importance and deep interest to the people of Canada.

We unhesitatingly tender to Your Excellency our unfeigned approbation of the noble stand taken by Your Excellency in maintaining the prerogative of the crown on the occasion of the resignation of the late provincial administration; and while we readily attribute to Your Excellency the purest and most worthy motives in the course which Your Excellency saw fit to pursue in exercising your undoubted right, as the representative of our most gracious Sovereign, with reference to the government patronage, we at the same time feel called upon to express to Your Excellency our conviction

that Your Excellency acted under a misconception of the great constitutional principles laid down in the resolution adopted by the House of Assembly, on the third day of September, 1841.

We assure Your Excellency, that we recognize to the fullest extent the propriety of Your Excellency's assuming to yourself the right to judge and act according to your discretion upon all occasions, and in all matters calling for the exercise of the royal prerogative, whether it be as to the fitness of any candidate for office, whose claims may be brought under the notice of Your Excellency, or in any other of the numerous circumstances that must necessarily arise connected with the government of this province. But we must nevertheless, with equal firmness, assert our determination to maintain as far as in us lies, the right of the Executive Council (for the time being) to be consulted by Her Majesty's representative upon all appointments to office, as well as upon all questions affecting the interests of the province.

Your Excellency may rest assured that it is our earnest desire to see the government of this province conducted in strict accordance with the acknowledged principles of the British constitution, which by preserving inviolate the rights and privileges of the crown and people respectively, will insure to the government that degree of confidence and support, which can alone render permanent the connection between this colony and the mother country, and conduce to the happiness and prosperity of this portion of the British empire.

(Signed)

T. BUTLER, *Chairman.*

Niagara, 30th December, 1843.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, the sentiments which you have addressed to me with the respect due to every expression of public feeling. No government can be successfully conducted without the confidence and support of the people, and I have never thought of pursuing any course that could justly deprive me of those essential aids.

It is gratifying to me to learn that you approve the stand which it was recently my duty to take in defence of the prerogative of the crown, and that you recognize to the fullest extent, the propriety of the Governor's judging and acting according to his discretion on all occasions, and in all matters calling for the exercise of the royal prerogative. This being admitted, no difficulty would arise on the question of consult-

ing the Executive Council; for although it is physically impossible, consistently with the despatch of public business, that every act of the Governor in this colony could be made the subject of a formal reference for the advice of the Council, there can be no doubt that it will be the inclination as well as the duty of the Governor to consult the Council on all occasions of adequate importance. But when a systematic and overbearing attempt is made to render the Governor a mere tool in the hands of a party, then resistance in defence of the royal prerogative becomes indispensable; because it is impossible that Her Majesty's government can ever permit the Governor of one of Her Majesty's colonies to reduce himself to that condition. The particular mode of carrying out responsible government established in this province is new in a colony, and to be worked successfully must be worked carefully; with honesty of purpose for the good of the province, without party animosity and exclusiveness, and with good sense, good feeling and moderation on the part of those engaged in the undertaking. My part of it shall be faithfully performed with an anxious desire to render the system conducive to the prosperity and happiness of Canada, in allegiance to the British crown, and under the protection of the united strength of the British empire.

TOWN OF NIAGARA—SECOND ADDRESS.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the town of Niagara, as dutiful and loyal subjects of Her Majesty, beg to thank Your Excellency for the firm and constitutional course you have lately pursued in resisting the attempted usurpation of the prerogative of the crown, and to express our sentiments on a subject so vitally important to the welfare of this colony, and its existence as an appendage to the British crown.

The principle of "responsible government," as expressed in the resolution of the Legislative Assembly of the province of Canada, on the 3rd of September, 1841, having been conceded to this colony by our gracious Sovereign and the Imperial Parliament, and Your Excellency having expressed your determination "to subscribe entirely to the resolution" in question—we, as British subjects firmly attached to British institutions, most cordially approve of that constitutional and unequivocal declaration of Your Excellency, and concurring

in the words of the resolution which declares "that the head of the executive government of the province, being within the limits of his government the representative of the Sovereign, is responsible to the imperial authority alone;" we emphatically maintain that Your Excellency, under such responsibility, is the constitutional and only guardian of the prerogative of the crown.

We would further represent to Your Excellency, that as the provisions of the Union Act contemplate that the interests of the sister provinces should become identical, and that the inhabitants of either should have no reason to regard themselves otherwise than British subjects, equally participating in all civil rights and the enjoyment of the same constitution, we confidently anticipate that Your Excellency, in constituting a succeeding Provincial Executive, will entertain the claims of our fellow colonists differing from us in laws, language and institutions, and extend to that population a fair participation in the administration of the government; a policy which the inhabitants of Niagara deem in accordance with the dictates of equal justice, and which cannot fail to promote contentment and unanimity among all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

With these sentiments, we proffer Your Excellency our humble and sincere support for the strict maintenance of that policy you have advocated, and depending upon the rectitude of your actions and your firmness and ability to carry out your policy, we are encouraged to hope that nothing short of extraordinary considerations will induce Your Excellency to dissolve your connection with the government of this colony, whilst the honor of Her Majesty's crown and the prerogative are unconstitutionally assailed.

ANSWER.

It is highly satisfactory to me, gentlemen, to learn that my conduct in maintaining the prerogative of the crown against usurpation, has your approval.

I have no doubt that the principles of responsible government, as expressed in the resolutions of the House of Assembly of September, 1841, can be carried into effect to the benefit and contentment of the province, with good sense and good feeling on the part of all engaged in that work, without any sacrifice either of the prerogative of the crown or of the rights and liberties of the people. To those principles and resolutions I shall steadfastly adhere.

I rejoice to see the sentiments which you express regard-

ing our fellow subjects of Lower Canada. Those sentiments correspond with my own, and I shall always act upon them. The inhabitants of both provinces are equally entitled to participate in the administration of the government, and in every other advantage that the state can afford.

Accept my grateful thanks for the assurance of your support, and for the wishes you kindly convey to me regarding the continuance of my connection with this colony. Had I foreseen the difficulties with which a Governor whose whole heart is devoted to the welfare of the province might be beset, owing solely to attempts to reduce the authority of Her Majesty's government to a nullity and render the Governor a tool in the hands of a party, I might have hesitated to undertake an office so embarrassed; but being here, and having duties to perform, I will not shrink from any obstacles; and while I am honoured with the confidence of our gracious Sovereign, I will not spontaneously separate myself from Canada as long as there are any difficulties to be surmounted.

AMHERSTBURG FIRE COMPANY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned members of the Amherstburg Fire Company, having heard with surprise and indignation, of the proceedings of the late Executive Council, in trying to obtain a surrender into their hands of the prerogative of the crown, beg leave to assure Your Excellency, that we repose unlimited confidence in Your Excellency's administration of this province; and while guided by so good a Governor, entertain no apprehensions as to the result of any contest into which we may be plunged by the wickedness of Your Excellency's late Executive.

We therefore consider it our duty, having enjoyed the purest freedom under the British crown, to come forward as a body, and tender to Your Excellency our services and our lives, on behalf of our beloved Queen, in vindication of her outraged rights.

(Signed by the officers and members of the company)

A. H. WAGNER, *Secretary.*

ANSWER.

I thank you heartily, gentlemen, for your spirited, loyal, and kind address.

I trust there is no danger of our being involved in any contest, and that we shall all be able to live together in perfect peace and harmony; but I have no doubt that if there should ever be need of your services in defence of your Queen and country, Her Majesty's government may confidently rely on your gallantry and devotion.

TOWNSHIP OF ORFORD.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the freeholders of Orford, in the Western District, beg leave to express our cordial approval of the stand taken by Your Excellency in order to vindicate the rights and prerogative of the crown, and to maintain the just and impartial administration of the government for the good of the people. We feel confident that Your Excellency will adopt such measures as will promote the welfare of the country; and that you will shortly gather round you such loyal and right hearted men as will have no other object in view than to increase the wealth, strength, and prosperity of Canada.

We therefore tender to Your Excellency our cordial support, and feel assured that you will receive the warm and firm support of the great body of the inhabitants of this colony.

(Here follow 70 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I thank you cordially, gentlemen, for your loyal address, and for the generous confidence and support which you offer.

No endeavours shall be spared on my part to meet the just wishes that you have expressed; to administer the government for the good of the people, to adopt such measures as will promote the welfare of the country, and to have as my advisers, loyal and right-hearted men, who will have no other object in view than to increase the wealth and strength, prosperity and happiness of Canada. It is a great comfort to me to see reason to hope that in this course I shall have the support of the great body of the inhabitants of this country. May every good attend you.

DISTRICT OF DALHOUSIE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the District of Dalhousie, in public meeting assembled, beg leave to renew to Your Excellency our assurances of devotion and loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, and warm attachment to the British constitution.

The firm stand taken by Your Excellency in upholding the undoubted prerogative of the crown, and the regard evinced for the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people of this favoured portion of Her Majesty's dominions, call upon every person desirous of maintaining inviolate the connection with the mother country, and every lover of the free working of our glorious constitution, to support Your Excellency in your earnest endeavour to preserve to us those blessings. And we now, in common with Her Majesty's loyal subjects of United Canada, respectfully beg leave to tender to Your Excellency our most cordial support, and to assure you of our determination to render to Your Excellency our humble assistance in carrying out such measures as will be beneficial to the province, and pleasing to our most gracious Sovereign.

We earnestly hope that the sincere desire of Your Excellency to render us a contented and happy people, may, through the aid of Divine Providence, be crowned with success; and that the impartial administration of the government of this province by Your Excellency, and the faithful discharge of the duties assigned you by our beloved Sovereign, may meet with their due reward; and we express our honest conviction, that Your Excellency can confidently rely on the good sense and unwavering loyalty of the people of this district.

ANSWER.

Rejoicing in the sentiment which you express, I hail, gentlemen, with great satisfaction this presentation of your loyal address, and thank you all most cordially for the assurances which it conveys of your devotion to our beloved Queen and warm attachment to the British constitution, and of your support and assistance in carrying out measures beneficial to the province; and which on that account will be sure to be pleasing to our most gracious Sovereign.

It is a great comfort to me to know that I may confidently rely on the good sense and unwavering loyalty of the people of your district; and if I should be so fortunate as to see the

accomplishment of my earnest desire to render the community of Canada prosperous, contented and happy, I shall be deeply grateful to Almighty God for permitting me to be instrumental in that blissful work.

COUNTY OF HURON.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's loyal subjects of the county of Huron, in public meeting assembled, desire to offer to Your Excellency that support which, at this crisis, Your Excellency has every right to expect from those whose privileges Your Excellency has protected.

Occupying as we do the shores of Lake Huron, not many years since untrodden by civilized man, the strife of party may be supposed too distant to engage our attention; but our population being composed chiefly of those whose pride consists in claiming, not merely their parentage but their birth from Great Britain, we have watched with intense interest the late proceedings of the Provincial Parliament, and cordially join in the hearty tender of our thanks to Your Excellency for the means adopted by Your Excellency to arrest the progress of measures unprecedented in the annals of British legislation.

And that Your Excellency may long remain in a situation to exercise with justice and equity the power vested in Your Excellency by our most gracious Sovereign, and to assert the supremacy of Great Britain in this extensive portion of her North American dominions, is the prayer of Her Majesty's most devoted and attached subjects and servants.

(Signed) H. HYNDMAN, *Sheriff, H. D.*

ANSWER.

It is delightful to me, gentlemen, to receive from the shores of Lake Huron the loyal address which you have transmitted, and to find that in that remote border of Canada there are true British hearts glowing with the love of our country, and with devotion to our gracious Queen.

Accept my heartfelt thanks for your support and kind wishes; and be assured that my best endeavours shall always be excited to promote the welfare of Canada as an integral portion of the British empire, under allegiance to the British crown.

VILLAGE OF KEMPTVILLE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the village of Kemptville and its vicinity, desire to approach Your Excellency at this particular juncture, with the expression of our unalterable feelings of devoted allegiance to our gracious Sovereign, and our earnest desire that the happy connection should be perpetuated, which unites our destinies with those of Great Britain, the queen of the nations of the earth.

We desire also to offer to Your Excellency the spontaneous assurance of our entire confidence in the purity of your motives, in your ardent desire to advance the best interests of the country, and in your patriotic and disinterested efforts for that purpose. We admire the manly dignity, the moderation, good temper, and withal the noble firmness displayed by Your Excellency in resisting the unconstitutional attempts made by your late council to wrest from the representative of the crown those rights which the constitution has wisely vested in it, to be exercised for the good of the whole community, and not be diverted from this beneficent and legitimate purpose to forward the selfish ends of any particular party or faction.

The generosity of Your Excellency's character (the fame of which preceded your arrival,) and the many distinguished acts of liberality displayed during your yet brief residence amongst us, alike forbid the remotest suspicion that in seeking to maintain inviolate the just prerogatives of the crown, Your Excellency can have been actuated by any base desire of personal interest or self aggrandizement. How far this suspicion may, however, be justly attached to the characters of those who sought to control the whole patronage of the crown for the purchase of parliamentary support, or, in other words, for the maintenance of themselves in office, it perhaps becomes us not to say.

We cannot permit ourselves to believe, that our gracious Sovereign will ever consent, nor do we think that any true lover of his country should desire, that every office of honour or emolument in the province is to be regarded as so much political capital, so many political pounds, shillings and pence, with which to tamper with the integrity of our representatives, to purchase votes at elections, or to reward the zeal of political partizanship. For ourselves, we repudiate the idea; while from our hearts do we cordially respond to the exalted

and patriotic sentiments of Your Excellency, that "office ought in every instance to be given to the man best qualified to render efficient service to the state."

Britons by birth or descent, and fondly cherishing in our hearts the sacred flame of liberty, the heritage bequeathed us by our forefathers, we are jealous of our constitutional rights, and are prepared to defend them, yea, if it became necessary, even at the peril of our lives. But while thus tenacious of our own liberties, we are prepared to regard as no less sacred those just prerogatives which the constitution secures to the crown or its representatives.

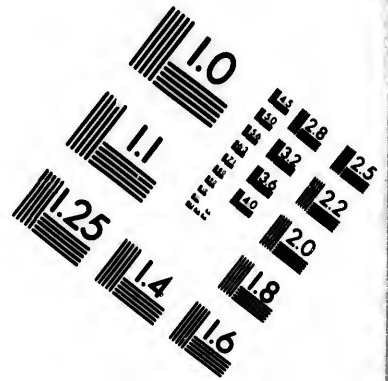
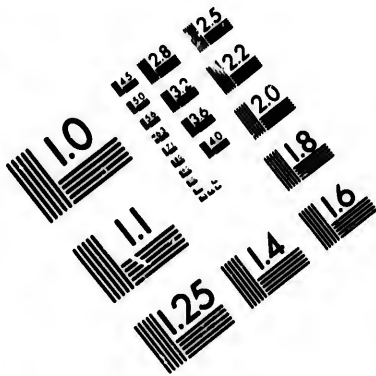
We rejoice also to observe in Your Excellency the merciful disposition to check that licentiousness of power, which under the abused names of liberty and reform, would, by an "act unexampled in British legislation," unscrupulously trample upon the rights and exercise a despotic and arbitrary tyranny over the consciences of a large body of fellow subjects, who have ever been distinguished for warm-hearted attachment to British connection, and devoted loyalty to the Sovereign of the empire.

We hope that Your Excellency may be enabled to form an administration composed of men who will enjoy the confidence of the moderate of all parties, and whose object will be to do equal justice to all, and to advance the true interests of the province, by prudent and cautious measures; instead of abusing power, by rash and hasty experiments in legislation, by the introduction of novel measures alien to the feelings of the people, and by the gratification of party spleen and political resentments.

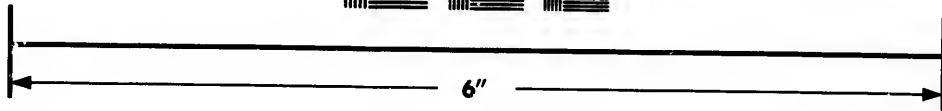
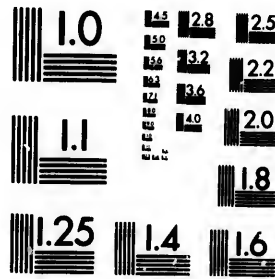
From the statesmanlike qualities exhibited by Your Excellency in distant climes; from the wisdom and experience acquired during many years of public life; and from the uniform success which has heretofore crowned your patriotic exertions on behalf of those over whose interests you have been called to preside, we are induced to anticipate from Your Excellency's administration the happiest results to United Canada.

Supported, as we feel assured you will be, by the wise and good, the loyal and well disposed of the whole province, who will rally round the flag of constitutional rights which Your Excellency has unfurled, we confidently hope that you will soon emerge triumphantly from the angry waves which the efforts of disappointed ambition have for the time raised around you; that under the blessing of Divine Providence, your government of this province may form a happy era in





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our political existence ; and that when at length you return to the home of your fathers (and far distant be the time) to receive, as we trust you will, the approbation of your Queen and country, the blessings of a grateful people shall follow you ; while the fervent prayers of many thousands shall ascend to heaven that your declining years may be spent in peace, comfort and happiness here, preparatory to the enjoyment of eternal bliss hereafter.

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my grateful thanks for your loyal, kind and affectionate address. It is most gratifying to me to receive this testimony of your approval and confidence, and such a manifestation of your devoted allegiance to our gracious Sovereign, and of your desire that the happy connection which unites our destinies with those of Great Britain may be perpetuated.

It is also highly satisfactory to me to observe that you concur in the opinion which I have expressed, that office ought in every instance to be given to the man best qualified to render efficient service to the state, and not to be prostituted for party purposes or the purchase of influence. Like British subjects who have never been slow to defend their rights and liberties, and who would never bow to despotism, you are equally ready to sustain the prerogative of the crown and constitutional government of Her Majesty in this portion of her dominions, and reject tyranny and oppression from whatever quarter and in whatever guise it may appear.

Of your favourable sentiments towards me and your kind anticipations in my behalf, I shall ever retain a lively thankfulness ; and if I should be instrumental in promoting the welfare of Canada, I shall go down to the grave deeply grateful to the Almighty for this addition to the numerous mercies which he has deigned to shed on an unworthy servant.

 COLBORNE DISTRICT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the Colborne District, in public meeting assembled, beg to address Your Excellency in the present state of affairs, and to express our attachment and respect to Your Excellency's person and government.

Composed exclusively of natives of the British Isles, we are warmly attached to those principles and institutions which

have raised Great Britain to the rank she now occupies among the nations of the earth, and to that connection which now so happily exists between her and this province.

Impressed with those opinions, it is with heartfelt satisfaction we have witnessed the noble stand made by Your Excellency against an infringement of the prerogative of the crown, and against the appointment of persons to office, whose only qualification was, that they belonged to a party inimical to that connection and those principles we are so much attached to.

Confident that whilst Your Excellency will zealously guard the prerogatives of the crown, with which our beloved Sovereign has entrusted you, you will also preserve our rights and privileges as British subjects, we rejoice that Your Excellency has appealed to the people for support, and we are sure that the appeal will not be found to have been made in vain.

ANSWER.

I thank you cordially, gentlemen, for your kind expressions of respect and attachment. It shall be my constant aim to deserve such feelings.

I regard your devotion to British institutions and British connection as the surest foundation for the safety and welfare of Canada.

It is highly gratifying to me to learn that my resistance to the attempt of the late Executive Council to usurp the prerogative of the crown for party purposes, and to reduce the authority of Her Majesty's government to a nullity, has your decided approval.

You may be sure that I shall be anxious at all times to preserve inviolate the rights and privileges which you enjoy, and proudly cherish, as British subjects. It is the happy union in the British character of devoted loyalty to the crown, with a determination to maintain the liberties of the subject, that has carried the glory of the United Kingdom to the exalted elevation which it has attained. It is a source of heartfelt satisfaction to me to know that the inhabitants of the district of Colborne retain the national character in full force, and that I can confidently rely on their loyalty and love for our mother country.

TOWN OF PERTH.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of Perth and its vicinity, in the District of Bathurst, beg respectfully to offer to Your Excel-

lency our assurances of loyalty and devotion to our beloved Sovereign, of the high respect that we entertain for Your Excellency, and of our entire confidence in the disposition of Your Excellency to administer the government of this province solely with a view to its benefit.

We recognize the prerogative of the crown as forming a part of our glorious constitution, and we feel that we should be unmindful of the blessings that we enjoy under it, did we fail heartily to support Your Excellency in resisting all attempts to circumscribe the constitutional exercise of the high duties committed to your charge by Her Majesty in this province, and we sincerely hope that the firm stand taken by Your Excellency may lead to the formation of a provincial ministry possessing alike the confidence of Your Excellency and the people of this province.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with great satisfaction the assurance conveyed to me by your address of your loyalty and devotion to our beloved Sovereign; and I thank you cordially for your expression of confidence in my disposition to administer the government of this province solely with a view to its benefit.

That confidence, I trust, will never be deceived, for my disposition in that respect can never alter.

The prerogative of the crown is held for the good of the people. It was strictly my duty to prevent its being usurped for exclusive party purposes, and to refuse stipulations which it was unwarrantable to demand.

It is my earnest desire to complete the formation of an Executive Council possessing alike my confidence and that of the people, and all the delay that has taken place in this arrangement has proceeded solely from my anxiety to secure that essential object.

I am grateful for your determination to support me in the course that I have pursued.

 TOWNSHIPS OF EAST AND NORTH GWILLIMBURY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the townships of East and North Gwillimbury, in public meeting assembled, beg to approach Your Excellency with the purest feelings of devotion and

attachment to our most gracious Queen, and to assure Your Excellency of our readiness and willingness, on all occasions, to support and uphold Her Majesty's authority and prerogative in this portion of the empire.

Entertaining these feelings of attachment to our beloved Sovereign, we cannot but approach Your Excellency with the most lively expressions of our admiration at the firm and noble stand made by Your Excellency, against the machinations of your late Council.

Hitherto we have avoided troubling Your Excellency with any expressions of our sentiments against the appointments of individuals to the magistracy, &c., who were engaged in the late unhappy rebellion, and whose loyalty may be justly questioned, because we traced in the principle "to forget and forgive"—advanced by Your Excellency—a desire on the part of Your Excellency to merge party differences, and assuage the rancour of party feuds and jealousies.

Notwithstanding our desire to join Your Excellency in this Your Excellency's laudable effort to soften the rancour of party animosities, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that very many of the supporters and advocates of Your Excellency's late council—residing in this section of the country—are notoriously opposed to the principles of our glorious constitution.

As subjects of our most gracious Sovereign, we thought it our duty now to assemble and offer Your Excellency our humble support and congratulations at the firm and manly stand Your Excellency has taken against the encroachments of a party, whose ultimate intentions are the overthrow of our revered and time-honoured institutions.

Viewing the resistance Your Excellency has made to the unconstitutional demands of your late council, as best calculated to inspire the loyal inhabitants of this fine colony with the utmost confidence in Your Excellency's wisdom and ability as a British statesman, and best calculated to secure the power with which our gracious Sovereign has invested you, we beg to offer you our warmest thanks, and to assure Your Excellency of our firm determination on all occasions to vindicate and support Your Excellency's measures.

(Signed on behalf of the meeting)

ARAD SMALLEY, *Chairman.*

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with sentiments of high satisfaction and cordial thankfulness, your loyal address, expressive of

your attachment and devotion to our most gracious Queen ; and of your determination to support me in my endeavours to uphold the constitutional prerogative of the crown, for the protection of the rights and liberties of the people, and for the promotion of the welfare of Canada, as an integral portion of the British empire.

If there be any who, as you intimate, are opposed to the principles of our glorious constitution, the only way to convert them is to make them feel that they enjoy every privilege and advantage that any constitution in the world can afford.

With respect to those formerly engaged in unnatural rebellion, it has always appeared to me to be most desirable that we should forgive and forget, and bury in oblivion all past political offences, and let those who have escaped the penalty of their crime, enjoy the full benefit of pardon, including freedom from the reproaches of their fellow countrymen. Thus all may ultimately unite in advancing the interests of the province, without the heartburnings of party dissension.

While I advocate this doctrine and avow that it has formed the rule of my conduct, I do not the less prize the loyalty and true-hearted spirit of those who stood forward manfully and devotedly to defend their Queen and country in the time of danger ; for by such loyalty and devotion, Canada was protected and preserved ; and on the same my hopes for the future confidently rest. I wish it were in my power adequately to shew my sense of the gratitude due to such services.

TOWNSHIP OF COMPTON.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects in the township of Compton in the district of St. Francis, desire in the present important crisis to strengthen Your Excellency's administration of government by an expression of confidence and respect.

Your Excellency may possibly remember, that when during the course of last autumn you honoured us by passing through our township, we ventured to approach you with an expression of our confidence. We would now assure you that the confidence we then expressed is not only unshaken, but greatly increased. We then confided in you because we had heard of the blessings which the Most High had made you the instru-

ment of conferring upon others—we now confide in you because of those things we see you doing among ourselves.

We are sensible that disunion and party strife have hitherto been two of the greatest evils under which, as a people, we have labored; while therefore we have viewed with gratitude your unwearied efforts, directed as they have been by wisdom, prudence and forbearance, to make us a united people—we cannot but regard with indignation the recent factious attempt that has been made by your late Executive Council not only to defeat those your gracious efforts, but also, by the proposal of an unexampled pledge, to force Your Excellency to descend from your high position as the representative of our beloved Sovereign to all her Canadian people, and become the mere organ and agent of a party.

We are also sensible that the hindrances to success that oppose you are all but insurmountable, but we trust that the same beneficent Providence that has elsewhere crowned your labour with success, will so crown them here, that you may long be remembered among us as the Governor who calmed our political strifes and made us what we wish to be—an united people.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for your kind assurance of approval and confidence.

Most fervently do I sympathize with you in your patriotic wish that political strife may be calmed, and the people of Canada be an united people. My anxious endeavours were exerted with that view from the moment of my assumption of the government, but I have been thwarted and disappointed, and instead of being able to allay party spirit, have become personally the object of its bitter and unqualified hostility.

I shall nevertheless persevere in my endeavors—

“Tis not in mortals

“ To command success. But we'll

“ Do more, Sempronius, we'll deserve it.”

And if by the blessing of the Almighty your affectionate desire be realised, and Canada rendered harmonious and happy through the instrumentality of my Administration, great will be my joy and triumph, and unbounded will be my humble gratitude to the Omnipotent Giver of all Good.

COUNTY OF MISSISKOUUI.

I say it please Your Excellency,

We, the magistrates, clergy, militia officers and others, inhabitants of the county of Missiskoui, in the district of Montreal, in a public meeting convened without reference to party distinctions, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with sentiments of unshaken loyalty to our beloved Queen, and firm attachment to that constitution of government under which we have the happiness to live, and under which our parent state has hitherto grown and prospered beyond all ancient or modern example, because it regards the welfare of the people as a whole, their protection and preservation in wealth, peace and happiness.

It was not without much anxiety we heard of the difference that had arisen between Your Excellency and your late Executive Council, on points in which our rights and liberties are deeply involved; but it gave us great satisfaction to find, that, as the Sovereign is not the head of a party in the state, but the common parent of the people, so Your Excellency, as the representative of the Queen, in refusing to be either the head or the servant of an exclusive party, has evinced a noble determination to carry on the administration of the government in a constitutional manner, equally true to our Sovereign, as watchful over the rights and liberties of the people committed to your charge,—a determination which meets our decided approval, and demands our cordial support.

(Signed in behalf of the meeting)

HY. DYER, *Chairman.*

Frelighsburg, February 3, 1844.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my cordial thanks for the sentiments conveyed to me in your address.

I receive with the highest satisfaction the declaration of your unshaken loyalty to our beloved Queen, and of your firm attachment to the constitution under which we have the happiness to live, to which the British empire owes its greatness, and by which the rights and liberties of the people are protected and secured.

You justly describe the duty of Her Majesty's representative in this colony, when you say that he is not to be either the head or the servant of an exclusive party, but ought to administer the government for the good of all, in obedience

to the will of our gracious Sovereign, who is the parent of her people. It is flattering to me to find that you appreciate my conduct, as having been guided by those principles; and I am proud of the assurance of your confidence and support, which no effort on my part shall ever be wanting to deserve.

TOWNSHIP OF HULL.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the township of Hull and neighbourhood, beg leave to address Your Excellency on the very important subject which has led to the resignation of Your Excellency's late advisers. As British subjects, strong in our attachment to the principles of the British constitution, and the rights of the British people under the same, but entertaining a due regard for the rights of the crown, we cannot refrain from expressing our entire satisfaction and warm admiration of the noble stand taken by Your Excellency in opposition to the late unconstitutional attempt of those advisers, to coerce Your Excellency to surrender to them the prerogative of the crown, for the encouragement and accomplishment of their own party designs.

Weak and humble as may be our support, we respectfully tender it to Your Excellency, in the assurance, that Your Excellency will continue to uphold and maintain unimpaired Her Majesty's prerogative, as well as the rights of her subjects in this province.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with high gratification the assurance conveyed to me in your address, of your approval of the resistance which my duty has compelled me to oppose to the attempt recently made, which you describe, and I believe very justly, as unconstitutional, to extort from Her Majesty's representative the surrender of the prerogative of the crown.

I still more rejoice at your union of regard for the rights of the crown with your attachment to the rights of the people; for it is the happy union of their respective rights, the one sustaining the other and both co-operating for the public good, that forms the beauty of the British constitution.

I should not value the prerogative of the crown, if it did not conduce to the preservation of the rights of the people; and I shall ever be fully as anxious to maintain the latter as the former. I accept, with sincere thankfulness, your tender

of support, and with greater satisfaction, from the consciousness that I shall always endeavour to deserve it.

SEIGNIORIES OF LACOLLE AND DELERY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of Lacolle and Delery, approach Your Excellency with the expression of our warm concurrence in the course adopted during the late session of the Provincial Parliament; but more particularly would we tender our cordial support to the conservative principles upon which the late advisers of the crown were met, at a moment peculiarly embarrassing, and under circumstances where a temporizing course of conduct would inevitably have entailed irremediable evils upon a country already sufficiently distracted by the turmoil of party spirit.

It is with unfeigned satisfaction that we can now address Your Excellency upon a subject in which no distinctive party feelings are involved, and where all races and all political grades may unite upon one common ground of sincere attachment to the fostering and happy influences of British connection, and in the expression of admiration at Your Excellency's firmness in defending the prerogative of the crown against the unconstitutional encroachments of Your Excellency's late advisers.

With every confidence in Your Excellency's firmness and prudence, we would express our warmest hopes that a bountiful Providence may long continue to this country the administration of one who has shown himself ready and competent to stem the tide which too long threatened to overwhelm the political and social interests of this portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my hearty thanks for the expression of your concurrence in the course which it became my duty to adopt in defence of the prerogative of the crown, and against assailants who would reduce it to a nullity.

It affords me the greatest satisfaction to find that you regard the question at issue in its true light, that is, as one in which no distinctive party feelings are involved, but one in which all races and classes who desire to maintain our connection with the British empire, may unite on common ground in its support.

The kindness of your personal feelings towards me demands my grateful acknowledgments.

TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM, C. E.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned clergy, magistrates and freeholders of the township of Chatham, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with our sincere congratulations upon Your Excellency's having relieved this country from the baneful influence of the larger portion of those persons who lately composed Your Excellency's Council; and we trust that the honourable intentions of Your Excellency in the management of the affairs of the colony may have full scope, feeling entirely persuaded that if Your Excellency's wisdom, gleaned from long experience, should not be crowned with success, Canada has but little to expect for the future. Wherefore Your Excellency may count upon our devoted attachment to your person, and loyalty to our Queen, for the utmost support we can give under every exigency.

(Here follow 116 signatures.)

Chatham, C. E., January, 1844.

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my grateful thanks for the gratifying sentiments expressed in your address, and for the generous assurance of support which it conveys.

It is my duty to endeavour to govern Canada for the prosperity of the country and contentment of the people, according to the system of responsible administration which I have found established; and I shall not relax in my unremitting exertions to carry that system into effect, relying for success on the good sense and good feeling of the community, and on the loyalty and attachment of those who, like yourselves, duly appreciate the advantages which this province enjoys, in connection with the great empire of which it forms a part, and in allegiance to the gracious Sovereign, whose happiness consists in the welfare of her subjects.

SEIGNIORIES OF NOYAU, FOUCAULT, SABREVOIS
AND BLEURY, C. E.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the seigniories of Noyau, Foucault, Sabrevois and Bleury, anxious to express our hearty

and entire assent to the principles advanced by Your Excellency, in the late exposition of your views on the subject of the government of this province, and fully concurring with Your Excellency that the course you have pursued towards your late advisers was the only one left you, consistently with your duty to our Sovereign and to the country over which it has pleased Divine Providence to place you, we have sought this early opportunity of expressing our loyalty to our Sovereign, our confidence in Your Excellency, and our firm determination to co-operate with you in the furtherance of those principles, and the carrying out of those measures which alone tend to maintain inviolate the integrity of the empire, to uphold the prerogative of the British crown, and save this country from republicanism and misrule.

May we be allowed humbly to express our entire accordance with Your Excellency in the opinion, that to enter into any pledge as to your future acts, would be a virtual abandonment of the admitted principle of irresponsibility on the part of the head of the Executive government to others "than the imperial authority alone," would be to debase in the eyes of Her Majesty's subjects the authority of the crown, by subordinating the representative of royalty to the Executive Council, by binding by engagements the most stringent, to affix the seal of Her Majesty to all the future appointments of the ministry, be the individuals so appointed qualified or not qualified, friends or foes to the British constitution.

The answer of Your Excellency to a demand so unprecedented and unconstitutional, was well worthy the representative of British royalty, and calculated to inspire all dutiful subjects with confidence in Your Excellency's character, judgment and administration, and to cause every well principled citizen, and every lover of good government, of whatever creed or nation, to rally round the standard of loyalty, and to declare as one man, their fixed determination to support the constitution and the monarchy, and to use every effort to strengthen the government of one who desires to be the rewarder of merit wherever it exists, and the impartial distributor of justice to all.

(Signed) W. MCGINNIS, *J. P.*,
and by 226 others.

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my hearty thanks for your loyal address, for your favourable opinion of my views and proceedings, and for your cordial assurance of support to Her Majesty's government.

“With such support from loyal hearts, with the application of patronage to the reward of public merit, with economy in the public expenditure, and with equal justice to all, of every race, creed, class and degree, I will not cease to hope, however incompetent my own humble efforts may be to produce so great a result, that the blessing of the Almighty will grant to this favoured land prosperity, harmony, and happiness.”

TOWNSHIP OF GRIMSBY.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the subscribers, inhabitants of the township of Grimsby and its vicinity, beg leave most respectfully to convey to Your Excellency an expression of the grateful sense we entertain of the noble stand Your Excellency has lately taken in maintaining the prerogative of our gracious and beloved Queen.

Thankful for the many blessings we have enjoyed under the benignant sway of our youthful Sovereign, and deeply attached to the principles of that glorious constitution, which has raised the mighty empire to which we have the happiness to belong to so high a pre-eminence among the nations; we trust that we shall ever consider it not only our duty but our privilege, to do every thing in our power towards the maintenance of that connection which now happily subsists.

Fully confiding in the energy, wisdom and decision, which have characterised Your Excellency's administration of the province; we beg to assure Your Excellency of our cordial, though humble co-operation, in any measure which Your Excellency may deem it necessary to adopt towards the accomplishment of the work which Your Excellency has so auspiciously begun.

(Here follow 206 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I thank you, gentlemen, warmly, for the expression conveyed to me in your address of your approval of my conduct in refusing to surrender the prerogative of the crown for party purposes, and in denying stipulations which it was unwarrantable to demand; as well as for your assurance of confidence and cordial co-operation in my administration of the government.

I prize highly your loyalty to our gracious and beloved Sovereign, for on the predominancy of that feeling in the

hearts of the people of this province must depend the happy continuance of that connection with the mother country which is fraught with blessings to both. I rejoice in the belief that the feeling is generally predominant, and I consequently cherish the hope that the attachment, safety, and welfare of Canada as an integral portion of the British empire, may be prolonged for many generations, until by the vast increase of population and wealth which is in prospect, she may in the fulness of time, as an independent sovereign nation, be able to protect herself against all enemies, and the thereunto faithful colony become a powerful ally, leagued with the parent state in the ties of mutual affection in consequence of a long previous course of reciprocal benefits.

SEIGNIORY OF NICOLET.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the seigniory of Nicolet, respectfully approach Your Excellency at the present momentous crisis, and assure Your Excellency that words are but feeble to express our loyalty and devotion to Her most gracious Majesty Victoria our Queen; and beg to convey to Her, through Your Excellency, our unbounded gratitude for having placed the reins of government of these colonies in the hands of one possessing the justice, energy, firmness, and decision that have hitherto invariably characterized Your Excellency's public life and acts.

Although Your Excellency's official career, previous to assuming this government, was favourably known to us, thus forming an earnest of a prosperous and happy future, notwithstanding the peculiar and critical juncture at which you came amongst us, and having as you had to administer a new and experimental form of government, and composed of materials of the most heterogeneous and discordant character, we owe it to Your Excellency candidly to avow, that we were not prepared to witness the consummate knowledge of human character displayed by Your Excellency in your dignified and triumphant stand against an attempt made to subvert or annihilate the exercise of the royal prerogative.

We anxiously hail the prospect of Your Excellency's long continuance to wield the political destinies of these fertile and valuable provinces, and by breaking down faction draw closer the ties that unite our hearts to the parent state. That notwithstanding the continued neglect of our *local interests* from

internal discord, this seigniority being as it is the natural and ready *debutche* to Her Majesty's valuable possessions in the eastern townships, we beg to assure Your Excellency that Her Majesty will not lack amongst us loyal and faithful hearts and powerful arms to uphold her government, so long as its *general principles* are dispensed with the same justice and clemency that have up to this time marked Your Excellency's most successful administration, and entitled Your Excellency to a lasting debt of gratitude.

That Your Excellency may enjoy the reward that belongs to such distinguished merit as yours, with health and happiness here and a blissful hereafter, is the fervent prayer of Your Excellency's most faithful and affectionate servants.

(Here follow 340 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with great satisfaction the assurance of your devoted loyalty to Her most gracious Majesty, our sovereign lady the Queen, and with sentiments of sincere thankfulness your expressions of kindness towards me.

You greatly overrate my humble pretensions, but you cannot estimate beyond the reality my anxious desire to render equal justice to every class of the inhabitants of this province, and to contribute by all means in my power to promote their welfare, prosperity, contentment and happiness.

If I be deemed worthy of being an instrument in the hands of the Almighty for the accomplishment of so good and great a work, I shall in after life, to the day of my death, cherish the recollection of my service in Canada with ineffable pride, comfort, and consolation.

I rely on loyal hearts like yours for aid and support to Her Majesty's government; and confidently trusting in the mercy of God, I devoutly hope that every blessing may attend you.

 COUNTY OF SHEFFORD, C. E.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the magistrates, clergy, officers and others, inhabitants of the county of Shefford, in the district of Montreal, in public meeting assembled, and claiming the privilege, as subjects of a free constitutional government, publicly to express our opinion upon matters of a public nature which affect our rights and liberties; most respectfully beg leave to approach Your Excellency.

We regard with deep concern the question publicly at issue between Your Excellency and the late Executive Council, upon the alleged subject of responsible government, as materially connected with these rights and liberties. The crown, we have ever considered to be not only the fountain of honour, and legitimate source of official authority, but the balance of power between an oligarchy on the one hand, and a democracy on the other, and hence the very key-stone of our constitutional freedom. The late attempts of the Executive Council to wrest from Your Excellency the royal prerogative by intimidation and for party influence, we therefore deprecate in the most unqualified manner, as unconstitutional in principle, an insult to our most gracious Sovereign, and dangerous to the rights and liberties of the subject; while Your Excellency's uncompromising firmness, in resisting such daring encroachments, meets with our most decided approbation, and will command our warmest support.

(Signed on behalf of the meeting)

P. H. KNOWLTON, *Chairman.*

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks for the expression of your loyal and constitutional opinion on a public question in which your rights and liberties are involved; and for the assurance of your confidence and support afforded to me by your address.

It is undoubtedly a public misfortune, that the country should be troubled by the unnecessary agitation of responsible government. I have earnestly endeavoured to carry on the administration of the government according to the views entertained in this colony on that subject; and I shall continue to do so to the utmost extent possible, consistent with our relations with the mother country, and our allegiance to the crown. But it was my bounden duty to resist the attempt made to reduce the Governor to the condition of a tool in the hands of an exclusive party; for if ever those who aim at this result, succeed in establishing it, our connexion with the British empire will be virtually severed.

I rejoice to find that numerous portions of the people of Canada support me in this view. The enthusiastic loyalty which the occasion has called forth is highly gratifying, and will cheer me through any farther difficulties that may await me in my anxious efforts to satisfy all parties, and to promote the prosperity and happiness of this province as an integral portion of the British empire.

TOWNSHIP OF GRENVILLE AND UNION, C. E.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the township of Grenville and Union, beg respectfully to offer Your Excellency our assurances of unchanged and unchangeable loyalty to our beloved Sovereign.

It having become a matter of public notoriety, that the resignation of the late Executive Council was the result of Your Excellency's refusing to "surrender the prerogative of the crown for party purposes," we cannot deny ourselves the privilege, in common with those respectable British subjects who are sensible of the great excellence of our political constitution, to congratulate our most gracious Sovereign, Your Excellency, and the province generally, that the Almighty has been graciously pleased to awaken Your Excellency to a sense of the danger threatened in this demand, and to inspire you with that critical discernment and moral courage, by the exercise of which the dignity of that Sovereign has been vindicated, whose proudest delight is founded on the great measure of rational freedom and personal liberty enjoyed by the constitutional supporters of her throne—her free British subjects.

We have been admonished by a late predecessor of Your Excellency that "the principle of monarchy is honour," and now our hearts confirm your own maxim "that loyalty is not a calculating process."

We approve and applaud Your Excellency's resolution to appoint only such to office, whose fitness shall recommend them—and reposing every confidence in Your Excellency's vigorous and comprehensive intellect, your liberality, and that proud integrity and loyalty which the world dare not impugn, we wish Your Excellency God speed.

(Signed) THOMAS KAINS, *Chairman.*

Grenville, C. E.,
8th Jan., 1844.

ANSWER.

I thank you heartily, gentlemen, for the generous sentiments of approval and confidence which your address conveys to me.

It will be my constant care to merit the continuance of your support; and my daily endeavours to reward your loyalty by securing to you the blessings of good government, and by promoting by all means in my power the welfare and happiness

of Canada, under the fostering protection and safeguard of Her Majesty, our gracious Sovereign.

TOWN OF CHAMBLY, C. E.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of Chambly, beg to approach Your Excellency with the most cordial expression of our gratitude for the important stand Your Excellency has taken upon a point of essential consequence to the welfare of Her Majesty's subjects in Canada.

We believe that the undoubted prerogative of the Queen to make all appointments to offices in the state, has been wisely established for the benefit of her people; and we condemn the late efforts made practically to annul it, as much as we admire the firmness, judgment and patriotism of Your Excellency in resisting them.

We are rejoiced to learn that Your Excellency has no intention of leaving us while antagonistic principles threaten our connection with the glorious empire of England, and pray that Your Excellency may long be preserved to enjoy the honours which the east and the west have already acknowledged your due, and which we trust will still further be enlarged in the north.

(Here follow 93 signatures.)

Chambly, February, 1844.

ANSWER.

I thank you, gentlemen, cordially for your loyal address, and for the kind sentiments which you express towards me.

It is my duty to promote the welfare of Canada, and to maintain unimpaired our connection with the British empire. In resisting the late attempt to induce me to surrender the prerogative of the crown into the hands of a party, I was acting strictly in discharge of that duty; for uncontrolled and unmitigated party government would both injure the welfare of the province and destroy its connection with the United Kingdom.

VILLAGE OF CARLTON PLACE.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the village of Carlton Place, in the Bathurst District, and its vicinity, beg to approach

Your Excellency with the expression of our sincere respect, and of our confidence in Your Excellency's intention and ability to conduct the government of this province, in such a manner as will be conducive to the prosperity of the colony, the happiness of its inhabitants, and the permanence of its connection with the parent state.

We have observed with regret the attempts of certain members of the late Executive Council of this province, to impose restrictions upon Your Excellency, which in our estimation would have the effect of fettering Your Excellency in the administration of the government, and which would virtually render the representative of the Sovereign a mere appendage of the Executive Council, only necessary for the purpose of expressing the royal *assent* to their measures.

We would assure Your Excellency of the pleasure it would afford us, to see Your Excellency surrounded by a council composed of men respected alike for loyalty and political consistency; men who, having the welfare of the country and the happiness of its inhabitants alone in view, could lay claim alike to the confidence of Your Excellency and the respect and esteem of the people of this province.

Believing loyalty to be, as Your Excellency has emphatically declared it, "a feeling of the heart," we would not trouble Your Excellency with any of the oft repeated assurances of *our* feelings upon this subject. We would merely beg Your Excellency to believe, that should the time ever arrive when we may be called upon to testify our loyalty to our beloved Queen, and our reverence of the venerable institutions of our father land, Your Excellency will find us where it will ever be the pride of British hearts to be found, the foremost in defending both from the insidious machinations of seeming friends and the undisguised attacks of open foes.

Believing our happiness and prosperity to depend in a great measure upon the continuance of the connection between this province and the parent state, and believing Your Excellency to be guided in the administration of the government by a desire for the promotion of those great principles, we trust that Your Excellency may be long spared to rule over us, as a happy and united people, whose pride and happiness it will be to shew our attachment to our Sovereign, and our respect for the laws and institutions of our country. And with our best wishes for Your Excellency's health and happiness, we have the honour to remain

Your Excellency's obedient servants.

(Here follow 178 signatures.)

Carlton Place, 17th January, 1844.

ANSWER.

I thank you, gentlemen, heartily for your loyal address.

You have accurately described the condition to which certain members of the late Executive Council would have reduced Her Majesty's representative in this colony; and it is gratifying to me to learn that you approve my refusal to surrender Her Majesty's government exclusively into their hands.

It will ever be my earnest endeavour, aided by the advice of the Executive Council and in co-operation with the Provincial Legislature, to promote the prosperity of the province, the happiness of its inhabitants, and the permanence of our connection with the parent state: your views are the same, and so are those of all loyal men.

I rely confidently on your devotion to our gracious Sovereign, and on your attachment to the laws and institutions of our country, which have rendered the British empire the most wonderful that the world has ever beheld.

 CENTRAL HURON DISTRICT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the Central Huron District, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with the highest and deepest expression of our respective souls and minds (ours to God excepted) to our gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria, and yourself, as her deserving representative.

We do assure Your Excellency, that we collectively and individually have imported with us from our father's land, Great Britain and Ireland, British feelings and British principles, together with the full determination of maintaining the supremacy of these in this our adopted country, at the risk of our lives and property, and also to inculcate the same into the hearts and minds of our respective countrymen and our own children.

We do not flatter Your Excellency, when we solemnly declare our thankfulness to the Wise Disposer of all events for sending us, in Your Excellency's person, a Governor determined to do equal justice to all: "*we want no more.*"

We humbly thank Your Excellency for dismissing from your confidence men who betrayed Canada West; more especially so at a time when Her Majesty's loyal subjects had not the chance (at least for one year) of giving our sanction

to place these men for ever on the shelf, amongst the ethics of heathenism and the records of anti-British principles.

It would have afforded us much pleasure to have met Your Excellency in a body last year, had time afforded you the opportunity to pass through our settlement from London to Goderich, in the doing of which we feel confident that Your Excellency could not help agreeing with us in saying, that you 'ave at length seen the most beautiful tract of land in Canada, the Huron Tract, and capable of containing a population of some millions of souls.

That the Omniscient Disposer of all events may direct Your Excellency's judgment in the choice of a council of good, loyal, moderate men, having the fear of God and the interests of the crown and its subjects before their eyes, without fear, favour, or partiality, and continue Your Excellency to be our Governor-General in full health and power of mind, is the prayer of Your Excellency's most obedient servants.

On behalf and at the request of the resolutions of the meeting,

(Signed) GEO. McLEOD, *Chairman.*

Central Huron District, C. W.
2nd February, 1844.

ANSWER.

I thank you, gentlemen, warmly for the kind sentiments towards me which you express.

I observe with the highest satisfaction your devoted loyalty to our gracious Sovereign, and your adherence to British feelings and British principles, the glory of the land of your fathers. On such feelings and principles the safety and welfare of Canada depend; and I rejoice to find them flourishing in full vigor in the regions of Huron.

I regret much that the near approach of the legislative session, at the time when I was in your neighbourhood, prevented the extension of my journey to your district. I should otherwise have derived great pleasure from seeing your fine country, and enjoying personal intercourse with its loyal inhabitants. I hope, however, that the time will come when I may still have that double gratification.

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TOWNSHIP OF RAWDON, C. E.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, residing in the township of Rawdon, Canada East, in public meeting assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency, expressing our unalterable attachment to the person of our beloved Queen, her crown, and dignity, and our determination to support and maintain with all our powers her sovereignty over this portion of her empire.

And to express our unbounded confidence in Your Excellency's wisdom to govern this very populous and extensive country as the faithful and uncompromising representative of Her Majesty, and also to express our grateful acknowledgments to Your Excellency for the noble stand you have made in not suffering any inroads to be made, either upon the prerogative or the liberty of the subject. And we do express our conviction that Your Excellency may rely with confidence on the good sense and loyalty of the people of Canada, for Your Excellency's support in the successful administration of the government committed to you. Praying to the Almighty God that Your Excellency may enjoy many happy years to preside over us in peace and prosperity, and as His heavenly hand has blessed and endowed our good Queen with many great and extraordinary gifts and graces, may He make her the wonder of the whole world for the true peace, happiness and prosperity that will be enjoyed by all Her Majesty's subjects, to the glory and praise of His great and holy name. Amen.

THOMAS GRIFFITH, *Chairman.*
EDWARD TIGHE, *Secretary.*

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with heartfelt satisfaction the expression of your fervent devotion to our gracious and beloved Queen. It must be a source of cordial gratification to Her Majesty to observe the manifestations of loyalty and attachment which her faithful subjects in Canada are eager to offer, whenever an occasion arises to call forth those feelings. I entirely concur in your belief that I may confidently rely on the good sense and good feeling of the people, for support against the extreme views of those who, forgetful of the benefits derived from the protection and fostering care of the parent state, pursue a course, whether wilfully or blindly, of

which the immediate effect is to obstruct Her Majesty's government, and prevent or retard the progress of such measures as the welfare of the country requires; while the ultimate tendency of their conduct obviously is to impair the feelings of mutual confidence and affection by which the mother country and the colony are bound together, and to destroy that happy connection which all profess to be desirous of maintaining.

I thank you warmly, gentlemen, for the assurance of your confidence in my endeavours to protect the rights of all parties and administer the government for the prosperity and happiness of the province.

TOWNSHIPS OF BAGOT AND BLITHFIELD.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the townships of Bagot and Blithfield, in town meeting assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with an assurance of our high admiration of the course adopted by Your Excellency in dismissing from the councils of Her Majesty the late Executive. We are thankful that at this juncture it has pleased Providence to place Your Excellency at the head of affairs, in whose wisdom and experience we have undoubted confidence.

We hope and believe Your Excellency has truly judged the people of Canada; for ourselves, permit us humbly to tender our sincere and grateful support.

(Signed) Wm. HOLIDAY, *Chairman.*

Bagot, 1st January, 1844.

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my hearty thanks for the assurance which your address conveys to me of your approval, confidence and support.

I trust that the progress of my administration of the government of this country will seem to you to merit a continuance of the same sentiments and intentions; for I know no other rule of conduct than a sense of duty, combined with sincere devotion to the welfare of this country.

INDIANS OF THE RIVER THAMES.

To our Great Father SIR CHARLES METCALFE, Baronet,
Governor General of British North America, &c. &c. &c.

Great Father,—We, the sachems and chief warriors of the Chippawas, Munsees, Oneidas and Delawares of the river Thames, take you by the hand and wish you many happy returns of the season, and according to the ancient custom of our forefathers, we renew our fidelity and attachment to our great mother, the Queen, and offer Her Majesty and the British nation our salutations and good wishes.

Great Father,—The red man once claimed this great country as his own. The grounds of your cities and towns were covered with our wigwams, for we were then many and you few. Our canoes glided over the bosom of the great waters,* now covered with the white man's canvass, and our eyes behold around us the white man's fruitful fields—millions of acres which we have sold—presented by the government to promote their and their children's welfare.

Great Father,—We often talk among ourselves how happy those people ought to be, under the guidance of rulers so just and generous. We, your red children, love to obey your commands; your voice is strong, and your words speak wisdom and truth. You are working to do good, and we wish you every success in your endeavours to secure the prerogative of the crown, and the peace, happiness and prosperity of your people.

We, your red children, feel grateful for the benefits we enjoy. We are contented and happy under the protection of our great mother, and it delights our eyes to see her flag float proudly in the breeze. We will protect it with our lives and hover near it to the last.

(Signed by 21 Chiefs.)

Colborne on Thames, January, 1844.

ANSWER.

I receive, my children, with great gratification your affectionate address, conveying the assurance of your fidelity and attachment to her gracious Majesty the Queen, and your salutations and good wishes to the British nation.

I thank you with all my heart for the kind sentiments which you express towards me.

* Lakes.

I rejoice to learn that you are contented and happy; and I am sure that it will be delightful to the maternal feelings of Her Majesty to receive this intelligence.

I am sensible of your loyalty and devotion, and of the readiness which you have shewn at all times to follow and defend the British flag.

I trust, however, that you will never again have occasion to manifest your known bravery and zeal; but will continue to enjoy the advantages and comforts of peace and prosperity, under the blessing of our Almighty Father.

INDIANS OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT.

To our Great Father who sits in Kingston.

Father,—We the chiefs of the Indians in the western frontiers, nations whose numbers have been gradually fading from the earth, and to whom the fall of each tree has brought increase of poverty—we who bled with you and for you in the battle field of twenty eight summers past, beg to approach you and offer you the right hand of friendship.

Father,—We are sorry! rumours of all kinds are heard around us, we learn that our brothers are divided among themselves, and that strife is again coming near.

Father,—We trust it is not so; we know too well its fatal effects. From the first wars until the present days our arms have always been raised in fight for our great father; but alas! many of us were laid low, the tears of many an orphan and widow still flow for a father and husband: but though such be the case, father, it deters us not.

Father,—We have but one heart, and meet it is that it should belong to our great mother. Yes, father, it is hers, and in the hour of need it shall not lie hidden in our breasts; danger, privation and death, we fear not in her cause, and as in days of yore our fathers left the hunt, so shall we leave the plough to strike one strong blow in her behalf whenever the dark hour come.

Father,—To you, her envoy, we offer the same devoted attachment; you stand in her place; your voice is hers; call upon us and we shall come.

Father,—Farewell, and forget not the love, the words and the offers of your red children.

(Signed by 13 Chiefs.)

ANSWER.

I thank you, my children, for your affectionate address.

Your past exploits are not unknown to me. I am sensible of your bravery and devotion, and am sure that if ever the occasion should arise, you would be ready to display them again in the cause of your great mother.

But I am happy to assure you, that the rumours which you hear are devoid of foundation. I am not aware of any probability of the approach of strife; I trust that it will ever be far from us, and that you will continue to enjoy undisturbed repose, in the cultivation of the arts of peace.

Rely on my grateful remembrance of your fervent zeal and faithful attachment, and on my earnest desire to promote your welfare and happiness.

 PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

May it please Your Excellency,

The subscribers, inhabitants of Her Majesty's loyal province of Nova Scotia, beg leave to offer their grateful thanks to Your Excellency, for your manly adherence to the principles of the British constitution, manifested by your resistance to the claims of your late advisers.

We concur entirely with Your Excellency, in asserting that great truth, "That all governments are formed for the good of the people;" and as the best government must produce the greatest good, it is our earnest desire to preserve inviolate those noble and time-hallowed principles which the wisdom of our ancestors established, and the experience of their descendants has sanctioned.

We have long watched with deep anxiety the movements of a party who, under the specious pretext of increasing the privileges of the people, have endeavoured to undermine the royal authority in the British provinces, and to destroy those checks which have been wisely introduced into our institutions to guard against the mischievous effects of party and intemperate legislation.

The exercise of that power which the constitution vests in the crown, for the public good, has been confided to Your Excellency by our Sovereign; and had you yielded to these unreasonable claims, it would have passed from your hands into those of the ambitious men who surround you.

The representative of the crown would then have become a cypher in these colonies, where no hereditary nobility does or can exist,—and the salutary influence of such power in checking the caprice or impetuosity which sometimes mark the proceedings of popular bodies, would have been annihilated; and noisy demagogues would too frequently have usurped all that power, which the constitution has prudently distributed among several branches.

We rejoice also to observe that it is Your Excellency's opinion, that the patronage of the government should not be prostituted to party purposes; and that as public offices should be created solely because the public service requires them, so persons should be selected to fill them on account of their capability to discharge their duties with benefit to the public at large, and not to advance the interest and influence of any particular political party.

We, who now take the liberty of returning thanks to Your Excellency for the noble stand you have made against an attempt to wrest the royal authority from the representative of the crown, beg at the same time to assure you, that we yield to none of Her Majesty's subjects in our attachment to rational liberty; it is because we deem it most securely guarded by the principles of our mixed government, that we rejoice at the firmness you have displayed.

It is with great pleasure that we have witnessed a similar determination to preserve Her Majesty's subjects from the evils of a party government, evinced by the noble Lord who exercises the royal authority among us; we have no doubt that the approbation of our gracious Queen will be bestowed upon her representatives, both in Canada and Nova Scotia, for their resolution to exercise her authority for the benefit of all her subjects; and we trust that the day will never arrive when we shall see the prerogatives of the crown usurped by designing men, who would doubtless use all the patronage of the government to perpetuate that power which they had thus obtained.

(Signed by over 600 individuals.)

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for the honour conferred on me by your address.

It is highly gratifying to me to be assured that my conduct in resisting unconstitutional demands has your approval.

A compliance with these demands would have reduced the authority of Her Majesty's government in this colony to a

nullity, and would have rendered the Governor a mere tool in the hands of a party. Such a subversion of the constitutional government conferred on this province could not be effected without the total destruction of the supremacy of the mother country, and can never therefore under any circumstances be submitted to by Her Majesty's representative.

It is cheering to observe that an abundance of loyal feeling prevails throughout the North American portion of the British empire, which will it may be hoped maintain those ties of affection that bind the mother country and the colonies together, notwithstanding the extreme views of independence partially entertained in Canada, which would utterly prostrate Her Majesty's government, and obviously tend to sever a connection that is replete with mutual benefit, and in which the perfect liberty of the subject, provincial legislation and administration adapted to the interests, wants and wishes of the people, and every privilege compatible with allegiance to the British crown, are combined with the fostering care and powerful protection of imperial supremacy and strength. It is lamentable that these real advantages should be brought into jeopardy by aiming at an object involving the extinction of Her Majesty's government, which can only be attained at the sacrifice of the connection that produces those blessings.

In addressing these sentiments to you, I am confident that I am communicating with gentlemen who are as determined as any in the world to maintain the just rights, liberties and interests of the people, and who value and uphold the prerogative of the crown as conducive to that end. It is the happy effect of the operation of the British constitution, that the true friends of the people are also the most loyal supporters of the crown.

CORPORATION OF ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, of the City of St. John, in Her Majesty's province of New Brunswick, in common council convened, having witnessed with deep interest, the constitutional stand taken by Your Excellency in upholding the prerogatives of the crown, which led to the resignation of Your Excellency's late advisers, beg leave on behalf of ourselves, and our fellow citizens, whom we have the honour to represent, to record our admiration of the truly British principles which have been promulgated by Your

Excellency on that memorable occasion, and to express our unanimous opinion that any departure from the sound views entertained by Your Excellency on the subject of colonial government, must in the end lead to the disseverance of British connection, and the consequent establishment of an unbridled democracy.

We appreciate too highly the inestimable blessings which we enjoy under our glorious constitution, to hazard experimental theories, irreconcilable with our position as colonial subjects, nor would we desire to live under a government where Her Majesty's representative should be so fettered in exercising the patronage of the crown, as to be subservient to the dicta of any party, whereby, to suit political purposes, he might in many cases be prevented from bestowing office upon those most worthy and capable.

Attachment to their King and the British constitution, induced the American loyalists of 1783 to seek an abode in this then wilderness country; and the same principles which actuated them, are warmly cherished by their descendants.— They therefore, with all those of British descent who have cast their lot in this province, are desirous of preserving inviolate the connection with the mother country.

We feel it therefore incumbent upon us to make known our sentiments, when we discover an attempt made to deprive the crown of its prerogative, having a tendency thereby to establish a democratic government in these Her Majesty's colonies.

By order of the common council.

(Signed) S. DONALDSON, *Mayor*.

January, 17, 1844.

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my cordial thanks for the address with which you have honoured me.

It is highly gratifying to me to learn, that the conduct which I pursued on a recent occasion, and the principles which I have advocated, have your approval and concurrence; and it is beyond measure delightful to me to receive the communication of the loyal and patriotic sentiments which you have expressed, and which are worthily inherited by the descendants of those loyalists of 1783, who spared no sacrifice to retain their allegiance to the British crown, and their connection with the mother country.

While such feelings predominate, the welfare of the colonies and the integrity of the British empire will, under

Divine Providence, be secured and perpetuated. Both will be endangered, whenever those trustworthy dictates of honest hearts and sound minds give way to wild speculation and a fretful agitation for extreme objects, that cannot be attained consistently with the preservation of those united blessings, which I rejoice to see you fervently and justly appreciate.

May the continuance of these and all other benefits be vouchsafed to you by our Almighty Father.

CITY OF ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.

The address of the undersigned magistrates, merchants, and others, inhabitants of the city of St. John, in the province of New Brunswick.

May it please Your Excellency,

It would ill become the inhabitants of the chief commercial city of New Brunswick, a province founded by His late Majesty King George the Third as an "Asylum for suffering loyalty," and remarkable for the devoted attachment of its inhabitants to the crown and constitution of England, to be silent spectators of the great struggle now going on for maintaining the monarchical principle, in the important province committed to Your Excellency's immediate government by our most gracious Queen.

It affords us the greatest satisfaction to find a Governor-General publicly declaring, that he will not "degrade the character of his office, nor violate his duty, by a surrender of the prerogative of the crown into the hands of the council for party purposes;" at the same time acknowledging, that "while it is his duty to maintain the constitutional prerogatives of the crown, it is no less his duty to uphold the rights and liberties of the people;" and we sincerely hope that Your Excellency's noble efforts in defence of the crown may be attended with complete success.

(Here follow 1031 signatures.)

ANSWER.

I thank you, gentlemen, heartily, for your expression of the sentiments which your address conveys. It is a high gratification to me to learn that my conduct in resisting an unconstitutional demand has your approval, and that you are sensible of my determination to uphold the rights and liberties of the people, not less than to maintain unimpaired the

prerogative of the crown. It is the beauty of the British constitution, that the power of the crown is exercised for the protection of the people, and that the people delight in supporting the crown; so that an affectionate sovereign and a loyal people act together in perfect harmony. The feelings which you entertain are in unison with those happy relations, and are worthy of men who justly appreciate the privileges that they enjoy under the free institutions of a limited monarchy.

SECOND RIDING OF THE COUNTY OF YORK.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the electors of the Second Riding of the County of York, in public meeting assembled, beg to renew to Your Excellency our assurances of feelings of the deepest devotion and attachment to our most gracious Sovereign, and at this important crisis in your government, feel it a solemn duty spontaneously to express to Your Excellency, our entire approbation and grateful satisfaction at the policy you have pursued, in firmly resisting the unhallowed attempt of the late councillors to degrade and destroy the royal prerogative in this portion of the dominions of our Sovereign.

We have naturally felt a deep and anxious interest in the important question at issue between Your Excellency and your late councillors, and in all that has transpired since their abandonment of their situations, and highly and most heartily approve of the noble stand Your Excellency has taken against the unconstitutional demand made upon Your Excellency by your late advisers, that you should enter into a stipulation with them as to the manner in which Your Excellency would thereafter exercise the patronage of the crown, as such a stipulation would not only be unconstitutional in the representative of majesty, but would have proved highly detrimental to the best interest of the colony.

We feel that the grateful thanks of the community are due to Your Excellency, for the clear and distinct enunciation in Your Excellency's answer to the address of the sixteen district councillors of the Gore District, of the principles upon which you have administered and still intended to administer the government of this colony, feeling satisfied as we do, that such principles are strictly in accordance with the usages and practice of a representative form of government; and are grateful for the firm avowal of Your Excellency, that you

will never be the traitor to sign the death-warrant of British connection.

It has indeed afforded us the greatest satisfaction and delight, to witness the prompt and energetic manner in which our fellow subjects have come forward in all parts of Upper Canada to declare their strong approbation of the course which Your Excellency felt it your duty to pursue, and that your conduct has met with the most unqualified approbation of our most gracious Sovereign and of her government, feeling convinced that such combined support cannot fail to carry Your Excellency triumphantly through the difficulties with which a few ambitious and designing men have surrounded Your Excellency; at a time, too, when the interests of the country required the united exertions of all parties to establish prosperity and contentment.

As the faithful subjects of an empire, not only the greatest and most just, but whose constitution and government is the best and freest on earth, we cannot withhold from Your Excellency the expression of our condemnation and abhorrence at the policy of the late councillors, in their attempt to pervert and prostitute the great principles of responsible government to their own selfish and factious purposes, and which sneeringly stigmatizes loyalty (the grateful and natural principle of every honest subject) as a reproach, and charges upon the colonist as a total disqualification for office, and a stigma, that in the hour of his country's need he had been true to his allegiance and faithful to his Sovereign.

As one of the numerous instances that may be adduced of the dishonesty of their pretensions, we may mention the bill relating to the customs, which they themselves declared was at once absolutely necessary, and would save thousands of pounds annually of the public money; and yet they not only thwarted and prevented that measure from becoming a law, but from a factious spirit of odious partizanship, in every way in their power impeded the whole business of the country. Their policy, too, since their retirement, can only be calculated to poison the contentment of the people, and to sap the very foundation of British authority, by severing its strongest ties, the affection and respect of the colonist for the mother country.

The avowal of Your Excellency, not to uphold and favour any one class of the community to the unjust exclusion of their fellow subjects, but to govern with equal justice to all, of whatever party or creed, awarding merit according to its deserts; and your endeavours to soften and allay the violence

of party, which has so deeply wounded the interests of this young colony, and to unite all classes in harmony and peace, are sentiments which find an echo in our breasts, in common with every well-wisher of our country.

The prompt action of the home government, and the solicitude shewn by them when difficulties beset this country, and their entire sanction and approval of the patriotic conduct of Your Excellency, we hail with gladness, as the assurance that Canada will not be lost or given away; but that with British hearts and liberal measures, its inhabitants will yet become united, prosperous and happy.

In conclusion, we beg to assure Your Excellency of our entire confidence in Your Excellency's government, and to tender to Your Excellency our warmest thanks and gratitude, for the cheering assurance "that you will not spontaneously separate yourself from this province, while difficulties remain to be surmounted," as we feel assured that every man not blinded by party, must now see that Your Excellency's cause is the cause of his country. Words are indeed inadequate to express our feelings towards one, who with utter disregard for self, at the price of his own peace, and at the risk of being unsuccessful in his government, willingly braved every thing for our welfare, shewing by his watchful care and anxious solicitude, feelings and sentiments as the representative of the Sovereign, which now endear him to us as the protector and father of the people. That Your Excellency may long so continue, and that success may crown your honest efforts, is our sincere prayer.

(Signed on behalf of the meeting)

THOMAS WRIGHT, *Chairman.*
B. SWITZER, *Secretary.*

Chinguacousy, Feb. 17th, 1844.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with the highest degree of satisfaction, the assurance of your devotion to our most gracious Sovereign, and of your approval of the conduct which it has been my duty to pursue, in order to preserve in allegiance to the crown, this portion of the vast empire over which Her Majesty reigns with the love and admiration of her people.

I acknowledge with heartfelt thankfulness, the sentiments of personal feeling towards myself which you have expressed with a warmth and generosity that demand my cordial gratitude.

I came to Canada in order to devote myself to its welfare. I found a fine country, rich in natural resources, and capable of great prosperity; seeing or conceiving that dissension was the great bane of the province, it became my anxious desire to unite all parties in the bonds of peace, conciliation and brotherly love. A counteracting spirit prevailed in the quarter in which I ought to have been most zealously aided. I could not consent to conduct the administration of the government on exclusive party principles—on principles of proscription which precluded equal justice to all, and instead of conciliating, could not fail to irritate a large portion of Her Majesty's subjects, and to perpetuate animosities and party strife.

Neither could I assent to the degradation of the office of representative of Her Majesty to the condition of a mere tool in the hands of a party, with a view to those party purposes which could not otherwise be accomplished.

Hence a cry has been raised accusing me of hostility to responsible government, although responsibility to the people has influenced me in every act, and notwithstanding that I had pursued and was pursuing, to a degree unknown in any other colony in the world, the mode of responsible government which I had found but recently established here. If any proof were wanting of my anxiety to carry on the government according to the system of responsibility, it would be found in the delay which has taken place in the completion of the Executive Council, owing solely to my desire to form such a council as, possessing my confidence, would also be likely to obtain that of the representatives of the people.

The unfounded cry raised against me has partially accomplished its purpose with the party disposed to uphold those from whom my duty compelled me to differ; and not only have I been unscrupulously charged with denying that which I have affirmed, but what is an infinitely greater evil, the good of the country has been sacrificed to party purposes, and measures have been crushed by party power which were declared to be necessary for the welfare of the province, by the same party that first introduced and then destroyed them.

Every effort has been and is being made to embitter the people against me personally, to persuade them that I am opposed to their rights and liberties, and thereby to obstruct Her Majesty's government; to substitute collision in lieu of co-operation, and consequently to impede the progress of prosperity in the colony, and endanger our connection with the mother country.

I trust that these attempts will fail, and that the good sense of the great majority of the people will perceive that there is in reality no question at issue which could warrant opposition to Her Majesty's government, or the withholding of that support which all loyal subjects are bound to afford when there is no just cause for the contrary.

It has been most gratifying to me to receive from numerous quarters, addresses similar in spirit to the one which you have presented, all assuring me that my honest intentions for the welfare of the province and the administration of the government are appreciated and approved, and that I shall be supported in my endeavours to promote equal justice to all races, classes and creeds, the extinction of party feuds, the establishment of harmony and mutual good will, the reward of meritorious service to the state, the oblivion of political offences, economy in the public expenditure, the advancement of useful works, and the adoption of every just and liberal measure tending to the prosperity and happiness of Canada, in connection with the British empire, and with equal regard to the prerogative of the crown and the rights of the people; which instead of being at variance, are maintained in unison for the general good.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the representatives of the people of New Brunswick, in parliament assembled, deem it a duty we owe alike to Your Excellency and the loyal constituency of this province, to express our high admiration of the constitutional principles promulgated by Your Excellency in the recent memorable conflict with Your Excellency's late advisers.

If this had occurred in a colony unconnected with British North America, we might have abstained from a declaration of our sentiments, but considering ourselves as a portion of Your Excellency's government, we cannot refrain from offering an assurance of our firm determination to uphold Your Excellency in maintaining the prerogatives of the crown, invaded as we conceive them to have been by the extraordinary claims of your late council.

We appreciate too highly the inestimable blessings we enjoy under our benign government, where the rights and privileges of all are well known and defined, to disregard any

attempt at infringement, whether it be aimed at the crown or the people, and we therefore hesitate not to express our firm belief, that if the extravagant demands made upon Your Excellency had been granted, monarchical institutions on this continent must soon have ceased to exist.

We indulge the confident expectation, that the noble stand Your Excellency has taken will meet the approbation of our most gracious and beloved Queen; and that the loyal people of British North America will be found ever ready to rally round Her Majesty's representative, in maintaining principles, so conducive to the happiness of the subject, and the safety, honour and dignity of the crown.

(Signed) J. WELDON, *Speaker*.

ANSWER.

Gentlemen,—I receive with the highest satisfaction your loyal and patriotic address, and thank you cordially for the assurance which it conveys of your determination to uphold me in maintaining the prerogative of the crown, against the attempt of certain members of the late Executive Council of Canada, to extort stipulations which would have prostrated the authority of Her Majesty's government, and destroyed monarchical institutions in this province.

It is the peculiar advantage of the British constitution, that the honour and dignity of the Sovereign are in unison with the rights and liberties of the subject, and that no true friend of the people seeks the degradation of the crown.

I hail the sentiments expressed in your address with the greater gratification, because I am sensible that they are poured forth from British hearts, which would resist any invasion of the liberties of the people, as firmly as they now reprobate a daring attack on the royal prerogative; and I should receive with shame the support which you afford, were I not conscious that in defending the prerogative of the crown, I am no less resolved to uphold the rights of the subject, and to maintain inviolate the institutions established in this province, with an anxious desire to see them accomplish the welfare of the community.

COUNTY OF CHARLOTTE, NEW BRUNSWICK.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the county of Charlotte, in the province of New Brunswick, beg most respect-

fully to express our high gratification at the manly and constitutional course recently pursued by Your Excellency towards the members of the Executive council in the province of Canada, a course which we believe to be so well calculated to put down the spirit of faction, and to inspire confidence in the breasts of the loyal and well-disposed subjects of Her Majesty in that province.

While we, as British subjects, desire to see the government of a colony conducted on liberal and enlightened principles, we would strongly deprecate a policy which would sacrifice the just and undoubted prerogatives of the crown to the interested and ambitious views of a faction; and therefore feel rejoiced that Your Excellency has so nobly evinced your determination to maintain those prerogatives, and at the same time to secure to the people their just rights and liberties.

(Signed) THOS. WYER,
(And 95 others.)

ANSWER.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for the sentiments conveyed to me in your loyal address.

It is highly gratifying to me to learn that my conduct in resisting unconstitutional demands has the approval and sympathy of so many of my fellow subjects; and I rejoice at this the more, because I am confident that their support proceeds from their doing me the justice to believe, that the same sense of duty which guided me in that instance, would make me at all times a stedfast supporter of the rights and liberties of the people.

BROCK DISTRICT—WARDEN AND COUNCILLORS.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Warden and such of the Councillors of the Brock District whose names are subscribed, not in council assembled, avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded us by being collected together for the performance of our official duties, to assure Your Excellency of our devoted attachment to the person and government of our most gracious Sovereign, and of our anxious desire to maintain inviolate the connection existing between this colony and the parent state—a connection based upon mutual interest, affection, and confidence.

It was with no ordinary degree of satisfaction and gratitude that we learnt that her Majesty's government had selected, as

a successor to our late Governor General—the ever-to-be-lamented Sir Charles Bagot—an individual possessing the high and honourable distinction that Your Excellency has so long sustained as a statesman, in the manner in which you have conducted the government of some of the most important colonies of the British empire. Our confidence and satisfaction were increased, and the permanent tranquillity of the country seemed about to be secured, by the liberal and enlightened character of the legislative measures which were introduced to Parliament under the auspices of Your Excellency's administration. But, we regret to state, that these cheering prospects have been dissipated, and an unwonted degree of melancholy disappointment spread over the minds of the people, by the unfortunate misunderstanding which has arisen between Your Excellency and your late advisers, upon the subject of responsible government—a question which we fondly hoped had been for ever at rest, in as far as Canada was concerned.

Permit us respectfully to express our belief, that Your Excellency has been deceived and misled as to the true state of feeling in the country with regard to the conduct of your late Executive Council; and that this misapprehension in Your Excellency's mind has been produced by the misrepresentation of a small but active party in the community. From the intimate knowledge we possess of the views of our constituencies, we beg confidently to assure Your Excellency that, at whatever time the people of the District of Brock may be appealed to on these important matters, they will emphatically corroborate the assertions we now make.

In the absence from Your Excellency of advisers in whom the country have confidence, we have thus freely expressed our opinions, believing that Your Excellency only requires to know the real state of public opinion, in order to conduct your government in such a manner as will be for the prosperity of the country, and the true dignity of the empire, of which it is our happiness to form a part.

In conclusion, we fervently pray that your Excellency may be guided by an over-ruling Providence, to pursue such a policy as will redound to your own fame, and secure the approbation of our most gracious Sovereign, and the deep and lasting gratitude of her Canadian subjects.

Dated at Woodstock, this 16th day of February, 1844.

(Signed) SOLOMON LOSSING, *Chairman*,
(And 10 others.)

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with great gratification, the assurance conveyed in your address, of your devoted attachment to the person and government of our most gracious Sovereign, and of your anxious desire to maintain inviolate the connection existing between this colony and the parent state; a connection, as you justly observe, based upon mutual interest, affection, and confidence.

I thank you also for the courteous language in which you describe the satisfaction with which you learned that I had been selected as successor to your late Governor General, the ever-to-be-lamented Sir Charles Bagot.

You inform me that cheering prospects have been dissipated, and melancholy disappointment spread over the minds of the people, by the unfortunate misunderstanding which has arisen between me and my late advisers, upon the subject of responsible government; a question which you fondly hoped had been set at rest, in as far as Canada was concerned.

And it might have been set at rest, if my late advisers had not recklessly resolved that an extreme view of it, never before contemplated, should be agitated throughout the province without regard to the consequences. There was no misunderstanding between them and me. Their pretensions were perfectly clear. They required that I should be a tool in their hands. To this, I could not, and never can agree. They have not receded from their pretensions. I cannot desert my duty. There is therefore an insuperable bar between them and me. I cannot believe that, with the sentiments expressed in your address, you would uphold their pretensions. Your devoted attachment to Her Majesty's government, must necessarily prevent your desiring to see it reduced to a nullity.

You state your belief that I have been deceived and misled as to the true state of feeling in the country, with regard to the conduct of the late Executive Council, and that this misapprehension in my mind has been produced by the misrepresentation of a small, but active party in the community. I am not aware that I have been deceived or misled in any matter, or that any misrepresentation causing a misapprehension in my mind on that subject has been attempted by any party. It is manifest that the feeling is not unanimous in favour of the late Executive Council; else I should not have received numerous addresses from communities and large bodies, indicating an

opposite sentiment on the part of the subscribers. Which way the majority of the electors may incline can only be shewn at a general election, which I hope will not be necessary before the time appointed by law; and then, I hope, the good sense of the people will perceive, that there is no just ground for obstructing Her Majesty's government, and that in reality responsible government is not at stake. The only question at issue is, whether responsible government shall be carried on by a cordial co-operation for the public good between the Governor and responsible advisers, which is my construction of responsible government; or whether the Governor shall be a subservient tool in the hands of a party, which is the responsible government of those gentlemen who have arrayed themselves, and are instigating the people, against me, in order to accomplish what would be the complete destruction of Her Majesty's Government.

Responsible government, in all its essentials, is acknowledged, adopted, and faithfully pursued; and has been in full operation throughout my administration. No one seeks to disturb it, but those who would render its working impracticable by aiming at impossibilities. No greater proof could be afforded of my determination to abide by it, than the delay which has taken place in the completion of the Executive Council, proceeding solely from my anxiety to form such a council as is most likely to obtain the support of the provincial parliament. You say that you have freely expressed your opinions, in the absence from me of advisers in whom the country has confidence. I have advisers who have my entire confidence, and who merit, and I believe possess, that of the country; and will, I trust, continue to receive it, in union with others who remain to be appointed.

As you have the goodness to breathe a fervent prayer, that I may be guided by an over-ruling Providence to pursue such a policy as may secure the approbation of our most gracious Sovereign, it will no doubt be gratifying to you to learn, that Her Majesty has graciously approved my conduct in the instance to which your address refers; and if I have also the good fortune to realise the remainder of your aspirations, and secure the satisfaction of my Canadian fellow subjects, I shall enjoy the greatest happiness that I can look to in this mortal life. But whatever may be my fate in that respect, my conscience shall never have to reproach me for any want of devotion to their welfare, or any disregard of their liberties and rights.

TOWNSHIP OF THORAH.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the township of Thorah, in the Home District, and province of Canada, beg leave most humbly to approach your Excellency with the assurance of devoted loyalty to our beloved Sovereign the Queen, ardent attachment to the British constitution, and earnest desire to perpetuate the connexion between this colony and the mother country.

We deem it, at this important crisis, to be our duty most respectfully to tender to Your Excellency, our humble but firm support in the course of policy you have been pleased to adopt in relation to the subject of responsible government, being well satisfied, that to defend the prerogatives of the crown is in other words to maintain the rights and privileges of the people.

We hail with feelings of satisfaction Your Excellency's declaration, that you are resolved to govern this province on British principles of impartiality and justice; that the patronage of the crown is to be exercised without distinction of races or political party; and that office ought in every instance to be given to the man best qualified to render efficient service to the state, and not to be prostituted to party purposes or the purchase of influence.

We fervently pray for the success of Your Excellency's exertions to allay the asperity of party spirit, and promote the best interests of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects; that you may enjoy uninterrupted health, and that this province may long prosper under the auspices of your administration.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with high satisfaction, the assurance of your devoted loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, of your ardent attachment to the British constitution, and of your earnest desire to perpetuate the connexion between this colony and the mother country.

I thank you cordially for your tender of support in the course which it has been my bounden duty to adopt, in resisting unconstitutional demands, of which the object was to extort the surrender of the prerogative of the crown into the hands of a party, for party purposes. You most truly remark,

that the defence of the prerogative of the crown was in reality the maintenance of the rights and privileges of the people.

I am happy to learn that you concur with me in the opinion that the patronage of the crown ought to be exercised with impartiality and justice, with out distinction of races or parties, and in order to secure the employment of the men best qualified to render efficient service to the state; and that it ought not to be prostituted for the purchase of party influence.

The fervent prayers with which you conclude your address demand my warmest gratitude. You justly appreciate my anxious desire to promote the best interests of all classes of her Majesty's subjects; and exceedingly should I rejoice, if I saw a more certain prospect of being able to allay the asperity of party spirit, and join all hearts in harmony and union for the general welfare. Late events have not tended to encourage me in such a hope; but I cannot reproach myself for my disappointment. It is owing to those who, prominent in influence, and possessing, in a degree unexampled in this colony, power to do good, would not avail themselves of it; would not be satisfied without trampling on the crown; and, failing to extort my submission to that purpose, wantonly endeavoured to throw the country into agitation, on a false pretence, without either just cause or rational object. With this view they have engaged in unceasing misrepresentation of my conduct and motives in difficulties which are of their own creation, exciting the people, and in some portions of the province stirring to organise them in opposition to her Majesty's government, reckless of the extent to which it may proceed, and well knowing that every repetition of such excitement must tend to loosen the ties which hold this colony and the parent state together in affectionate union; unable all the while to adduce one single act on my part that is injurious to the rights and liberties of the people, or that merits, in the slightest degree, the aspersions that they scatter abroad to produce disaffection against me. By the blessing of the Almighty, there are a host of men in Canada of sound constitutional principles, true friends and supporters of civil and religious freedom, who will, I trust, duly estimate the conduct of my assailants, and mine, and do justice between us.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned freeholders and inhabitants of the Eastern District, beg leave to approach Your Excellency as the representative of our most gracious Queen, with sentiments of devotion and unalterable attachment to her person and government—of our earnest desire to maintain inviolate the rights and privileges of her crown, and of our firm determination to maintain and perpetuate the happy connexion of this colony with the parent state.

We desire to offer to Your Excellency the assurance of our entire confidence in the purity and singleness of your intentions, in your anxious desire to secure the welfare of Canada, and the integrity of the British empire, and while it is to us a source of deep regret that there is yet to be found in this province, a portion of its inhabitants so deluded as to require from Your Excellency stipulations in regard to the exercise of the prerogatives of the crown, which we consider unconstitutional, and tantamount to a virtual demand for the surrender of those rights into the hands of a party for party purposes, which the constitution has wisely vested in you as the representative of our Sovereign for the good of the whole community—we cannot but admire the noble stand which Your Excellency has taken in resisting those unjustifiable demands—demands which if conceded, would reduce the authority of Her Majesty's government to a mere nullity, and as a consequence sever that connection with the mother country which we so dearly prize.

We cannot bring ourselves to believe that it is the desire of the people of this province that all offices of honour and emolument, are to be regarded as so many bribes, with which to purchase the parliamentary support of our representatives, and we trust that the day is far distant, when a system will prevail in this province, so republican and anti-British, as that of ejecting all officials, from the highest to the lowest, in order to make room for the needy partisans of each and every faction, which may happen for the time to be in the ascendant—a system to which we fear the attempts of your late council were but the introductory steps. For ourselves, we repudiate such a system, and from our hearts we respond to the declaration of Your Excellency, “that office ought in every instance to be given to the man” best qualified to render efficient service to the state.

We doubt not but Your Excellency will be enabled to form an administration composed of men, who will enjoy the confidence of the moderate of all parties, and whose object will be to do equal justice to all, and to advance the true interests of the province by prudent and cautious legislation, instead of abusing power by rash and hasty experiments, by the introduction of novel and impracticable measures alien to the feelings of the people, unequal and unjust in their operation, and odious and inquisitorial in their character.

If those who address Your Excellency have not been among the first to tender to Your Excellency their unqualified support, the undoubted reputation for loyalty which has ever distinguished the inhabitants of the Eastern District, will they trust be a sufficient assurance to Your Excellency that it has not been because they were on this occasion wanting to themselves, or forgetful of the blessings which the Sovereign Disposer of events has vouchsafed to them under the mild and beneficent sway of British rule.

For the noble and patriotic sentiments enunciated in the manly and straightforward reply of Your Excellency to the Warden and Councillors of the Gore district, we cordially thank Your Excellency: they met with our warmest approbation; and, we feel assured, that the loyal and well disposed throughout the length and breadth of the land, require no more themselves, and will never sanction the demand for more in others.

Approved, as we are gratified to hear that Your Excellency's course has been, by your Sovereign and all classes of our fellow subjects at home, and supported as we feel assured you will be by the wise and the good in this province, we confidently hope, that Your Excellency will safely guide the vessel of state through the breakers with which the wiles of designing men have surrounded it; and that through Divine Providence, your administration may form a bright era in our annals; and that when the weight of declining years shall force Your Excellency to resign your high trust, you may return in triumph to the beloved land of our fathers, there to spend the evening of your days, followed by the prayers of grateful thousands in this and other climes, and cheered by the recollection of having, upon all occasions, and under all circumstances, faithfully performed your duty to your Queen and country.

ANSWER.

The assurance, gentlemen, which you convey to me, of your devoted and unalterable attachment to the person and government of our most gracious Queen, of your earnest desire to uphold inviolate the prerogatives of her crown, and of your determination to maintain and perpetuate the happy connection of this colony with the parent state, afford unqualified satisfaction, and demand my grateful acknowledgments.

Her Majesty relies with confidence on the love and loyalty of her Canadian subjects, of which abundant proofs have been afforded in times past, and are likewise manifested in the numerous addresses which late events in this province have elicited.

My warmest thanks are due to you for the affectionate sentiments and wishes which you have expressed towards me. My constant aim will be to merit such feelings, by showing in every act of my administration, that I have at heart the welfare and happiness of this country. Long may it be one of the most splendid gems of the British crown; long may it flourish a land of liberty, loyalty, industry, and enterprise, increasing daily in population and wealth, a place of refuge and comfort for a large portion of the superabundant numbers which the genius of Britain sends forth to fertilize and civilize the untenanted regions of the earth. Long may the happy connection of the United Kingdom and this colony in the voluntary bonds of mutual affection, be an unfailing source of benefit and prosperity to both; and long may Canada rejoice in aiding and upholding the grandeur, might, and integrity of the British empire.

In these aspirations I shall, I am sure, have the hearty concurrence of the inhabitants of the Eastern District, who yield to none in loyalty and devotion to their Queen and country.

WARDEN & COUNCILLORS OF THE OTTAWA DISTRICT.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the undersigned Warden and Councillors of the Ottawa District, (comprising the counties of Prescott and Russell, in Canada West,) would very respectfully repeat to your Excellency our unaltered attachment to the Royal person and crown of our most gracious Queen, our steadfast adherence to the British

constitution, and our most cordial wishes for an indissoluble connexion between Canada and the British Empire.

On this earliest occasion of our assembling together since the resignation of your late Executive Councillors, we feel impelled no less by duty to the royal representative, than by a sense of sincere gratitude to your Excellency for your uncompromising firmness at that conjuncture of our public affairs, to give the above assurance, and at the same time to express our united unqualified approval of your Excellency's magnanimous defence of the prerogative of the crown from the unconstitutional restrictions then attempted to be put upon it, followed by your able and dignified vindication of that act, in face of the many formidable misrepresentations and previous misapprehensions which the occasion gave rise to.

We, in common with all other loyal subjects of her Majesty in united Canada, can wish for no other greater freedom than is intended so freely to follow from the time-tried constitution of the parent state, in which the prerogative of the sovereign is so important and active an element, and the free exercise of which prerogative, in honouring the meritorious, and rewarding the deserving, irrespectively of party considerations to guide it, is so generously fostered by a free and mighty people there.

And while we consider the principles of that constitution, carried out by the careful hand of practical experience as far as these can safely and usefully be adapted to our condition as colonists, to be altogether sufficient for our perfect freedom and security, and our advancement in prosperity and happiness, we cannot too strongly deprecate any encroachment or innovation on that noble fabric, which has proved itself at once so acceptable and suited to our habits and predilections, and is so dear to our affections and feelings as being handed down from our forefathers.

To these expressions of our sentiments your Excellency will permit us to add those of our heartfelt esteem and good wishes for you personally. We feel a well grounded confidence, from your extensive and signal success as a statesman, that under Providence you will be enabled to conciliate all classes in Canada to a just appreciation of our enviable privileges as British subjects, and by removing every obstacle to our public affairs being administered on the sound monarchical principles of the British constitution, favourably modified to the circumstances of our state as colonists, you will be successful in establishing the government of united

Canada on a well defined and permanent basis: and for these objects your Excellency may be assured of our humble, yet sincere confidence and support.

(Signed)

CHAS. A. LOW, *Warden, O. D.*
CHAUNCY JOHNSON,
ARCHIBALD PETRIE,
WILLIAM EDWARDS,
THOMAS HIGGINSON,
NEIL STEWART,
JAMES CONWAY,
HUGH M'NIEL,
EDWIN M'MASTER,
DOND. M'DONALD, (F.) D. C.

Court House, L'Original,
13th February, 1844.

ANSWER.

I receive, gentlemen, with the highest satisfaction the expression of your unalterable attachment to the royal person and crown of our most gracious Queen, of your steadfast adherence to the British constitution, and of your most cordial wishes for an indissoluble connection between Canada and the British empire. These are sentiments worthy of loyal subjects, and it must gladden the heart of our beloved Sovereign, to know that they are warmly cherished by the people of this Province.

I thank you gratefully for the kind feelings towards me which your address conveys, and for the judicious opinions which it contains on the subject recently agitated. You seize the true point for consideration when you notice your condition as colonists. The principles of the British constitution are fully established here: and the practical working of it has been adopted as far as that is possible consistently with the connection of a colony with the mother country.

The Legislative power is vested in the crown and the two houses of parliament. The executive power is in the crown, represented by a governor, who is aided by a council of advice, consisting of heads of departments, and responsible to the people and their representatives for executive measures. The government is conducted for the good of the people, and according to their wishes. This is the constitution of Canada; and with good sense, moderation, and honest co-operation for the public welfare, it may be successfully worked.

But supposing the Executive Council to be supreme, and the Governor to be merely an instrument for putting the sign

manual to their dictations—which is the sort of constitution aimed at by a party—the authority of the crown would then be a nullity. The council would usurp all the Executive authority; all the prerogative of the crown; all the distribution of patronage. The Executive Council would nominate the Legislative Council, and would wield all the powers of the House of Assembly, whether they were the leaders or the servants of that body. All the power and functions of the government would be monopolized by the Executive Council, or the House of Assembly, as the case might be. In such a constitution where would be the crown? Where the supremacy of the mother country? This is not the constitution of a limited monarchy. This is not the British constitution. Neither is it the constitution of Canada. It is not, I believe, the constitution of any state in existence; for even in the most republican constitutions the powers of government are more carefully distributed among different authorities.

Those must be blind who do not see the manifest difference between an independent state and a colony; between an old and a new country; between one overflowing with capital and population, and one needing both; between one in which a wealthy aristocracy possesses great influence, and another in which no such influence exists; between a country in which the practical mode of governing is regulated by a nice balance of counterpoising influence, and one in which the means of producing the same balance are wanting; between the existence of a state of things in one country which have been the gradual work of ages, and the attempt to transfer the same state of things by word of command to a country in most respects widely opposite; in short between the United Kingdom and Canada; differences which would render what might be the same thing in name very different in reality in the two countries.

What is the inference to be drawn from these differences? Not that the people of Canada are less free than those of the mother country. Not that their rights and liberties are less sacred. Not that the measures of the government will be other than liberal. Not that responsible government is denied or impaired, but that it must be conducted considerately and carefully for the public good, and not to the exclusive domination of a party. It is as much the duty of the friend of the people, as it is of the servant of the crown, to resist the tyranny of an oligarchy which would trample on both.

It would make me beyond measure happy if I could realize

the prospect which you present, and be enabled to conciliate all classes in Canada, and establish the government on a well defined and permanent basis. Whatever may be my fortune in that respect, I shall not cease to devote my earnest efforts to promote the welfare of the Province, and the happiness of its inhabitants, considering it to be equally my duty to guard the prerogative of the crown, and uphold the rights of the people.

COUNTY OF TWO MOUNTAINS.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the inhabitants of the seigniorie of Argenteuil, and of the township of Wentworth and the Gore of Chatham, in the district of Two Mountains, beg leave to approach Your Excellency, for the purpose of adding our testimony to that of the many thousands of our fellow-colonists, whose addresses have declared their approval of Your Excellency's conduct in the administration generally of the government of this colony, and particularly under the trying circumstances under which Your Excellency was placed during the progress of recent political events. In reviewing the history of those events, the first and most interesting point presented to our notice, is the claim put forth by the late Executive Council to the exclusive disposal of the patronage of the crown. It is unnecessary to allude in this address to the obvious consequences that would result from the concession of that claim; we shall confine ourselves, therefore, under this head, to the simple declaration, that the stand taken by Your Excellency upon that occasion, was in our opinion not only strictly constitutional, but absolutely necessary for the protection of our rights and liberties as British subjects.

While we are sincerely desirous that the principle of government conceded to the people of this province under the administration of the late Lord Sydenham, and known as responsible government, may exercise its legitimate influence, we are not willing that that principle should be allowed to interfere with the spirit of monarchy inherent in the constitution.

Among the feelings and motives that have prompted this demonstration, we beg to assure Your Excellency, that the spirit of party or of nationality finds no place; and we devoutly trust, that under the able and impartial government

of Your Excellency, assisted by a council of approved patriotism and ability, the people of this colony, of every race and of every shade of politics, will be brought to feel, that national prosperity and happiness can be secured only by the peaceful and united efforts of the whole.

That the Almighty Disposer of events will be pleased to make Your Excellency the instrument of great and permanent good to this colony, and that He will grant to you health, length of days, and that peace which the world cannot give, is the sincere prayer of the subscribers.

(Signed, with the exception of about 20 persons, by the whole male population, amounting to upwards of 700.

ANSWER.

Accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks for your public-spirited and kind address.

It is highly gratifying to me to learn, that my conduct in resisting unconstitutional demands, has your approval and support.

The system of responsible government established under the administration of Lord Sydenham, is the recognised form of administration in this colony. No one in the slightest degree acquainted with that nobleman's administration of the government, or with his public and private correspondence, since given to the world, can for an instant suppose that it was his intention, or that of Her Majesty's government, that the authority of the crown and the supremacy of the British nation should be reduced to a nullity, and the governor, representing both, be rendered a mere tool in the hands of a party.

It is against that monstrous perversion of the admirable principle of responsible government that I have been contending, and I rejoice to find that you concur with me.

Ever since the events which threw the country into a state of agitation and apprehension, I have been endeavouring to form a council, on whose advice and assistance I can rely in conducting the administration of the government according to the interests and wishes of the people, and with the confidence and support of their representatives. My wishes in this respect have hitherto been only partially effected; but notwithstanding the obstructions studiously opposed to me, the completion of that desirable object will, I trust, be accomplished.

TOWNSHIP OF AMHERST ISLAND.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the inhabitants of the township of Amherst Island, assembled in public meeting, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with an assurance of our high admiration of the course adopted by Your Excellency in dismissing from the councils of Her Majesty the late Executive. We are thankful that at this juncture it has pleased Providence to place Your Excellency at the head of affairs, in whose wisdom and experience we feel unlimited confidence.

We hope and believe Your Excellency has truly judged the people of Canada—for ourselves, permit us humbly to tender our sincere and grateful support.

(Signed on behalf of the meeting)

JOHN L. CUMMINS, *D. C., Chairman.*

ANSWER.

I thank you heartily, gentlemen, for your generous assurance of confidence and support. I trust that you will never see reason to withdraw them, for my earnest desire will ever be to advance the welfare of the people of Canada. Whatever difficulties may arise, that will be steadily the object of my endeavours; and on the loyal feelings by which you are animated, I rely for ultimate success.

[The Publishers have used their best endeavours to include all the Addresses which have been presented, but it is probable that some have escaped observation. The following Replies are given alone, the Publishers not having been able to procure copies of the Addresses to which they refer.]

ANSWER

To the Address from the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the County of Russell, Ottawa District.

I thank you, gentlemen, cordially, for your loyal, patriotic, and constitutional address.

At a time when an insidious attempt is made to prostrate Her Majesty's government in Canada to an unexampled condition of subserviency, which would be tantamount to its overthrow, it is highly satisfactory to observe the public spirit and generous zeal with which those who rightly appreciate

the connection subsisting between this colony and the British empire, come forward in support of Her Majesty's representative, in his endeavours to maintain this province in true allegiance to our gracious Sovereign, and to render it prosperous and happy as an integral portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

The objects of the party who are bent on obstructing the government, and who are actively engaged in exciting disaffection against me by the most unscrupulous misrepresentations, are now disclosed beyond the probability of misconception. It is manifest that they aim at the following state of things: That the authority of Her Majesty in this province should be a nullity; that the Governor should be a subservient tool in the hands of the Executive Council; that the Legislative Council should be elected by the Executive Council; that the Executive Council should be in reality nominated by the House of Assembly.

The authority of the Crown and of the Legislative Council being thus annihilated, and every balance in the constitution destroyed, the whole power of the state would be usurped by either the Executive Council exercising undue interference over the House of Assembly, or by the House of Assembly exercising unlimited interference in the Executive Administration. It would be either a despotic and exclusive oligarchy, or an absolute, unqualified democracy. This, they pretend, is the responsible government granted to Canada by Her Majesty's Ministers. It is neither the one nor the other. The British constitution is a limited monarchy, or a balance of the monarchical, aristocratic, and democratic powers, without the exclusive ascendancy of either; the work of ages, progressively formed to suit the gradual changes in the social relations of the community; and the constitution granted to Canada is the same, as far as the same can be practically carried into operation in a colony.

The constitution, as established by the arrangements of Lord Sydenham and by the resolution of September 1841, I am using, and shall continue to use, my anxious endeavours to work, through responsible heads of departments, for the benefit and contentment of the people of Canada, with the advice and co-operation of an Executive Council which will I trust obtain the confidence of the provincial parliament; and if this cannot be done successfully, the blame will be justly due to those who, in the pursuit of unbridled power, have sought to destroy the constitution which they pretend to uphold, and are doing their utmost to obstruct the formation

of any responsible government, while their unfounded outcry is, that it is intentionally avoided.

Many probably give their support to this party under an honest belief that there is reluctance on my part to consult the Executive Council. This is entirely an error. With any council that seeks the good of the country, and does not strive to degrade the office of governor to the condition of a mere party tool, it is my inclination, as well as my duty and my practice, to consult on all subjects. No governor could dream of administering the government of this province, without constant consultation with his council.

Every governor must be sensible of the advantage that he would derive from the aid, advice, and information of councillors and heads of departments, in whom he can place confidence. But that is not the question at issue. If it were, or if it had been, the country would not have been troubled with the present dispute. The demand of the party now obstructing Her Majesty's government is, that the Governor, who is responsible to his Sovereign and the British nation for the welfare of Canada, is with respect to the government of this country to be a nonentity, or in other words to be the subservient tool of any party that may acquire a temporary ascendancy. To this I could not and never can submit. This was the meaning of the stipulations demanded of me, and which my duty to the crown rendered compliance with impossible.

I shall ever retain, gentlemen, a grateful sense of your staunch support and kind wishes, and it will be the greatest happiness that I can enjoy during the remainder of my mortal life, if your prayer for my success in promoting concord and prosperity in this important province, be heard with favour at the throne of Heaven.

ANSWER

*To the Address of the Gentry, Magistrates, Merchants and other
Inhabitants of Kingston.*

Accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks for the generous motives which have induced you to come forward in the present state of affairs to assure me of your confidence and support.

Above all, I prize those sentiments of loyalty to our gracious Sovereign, and attachment to the mother country, which you evince, and which form the only sure basis on

which the welfare of this colony, as an integral portion of the British empire, can be firmly established. On such feelings I place my reliance for success in my resolution to devote myself to the service of this province, and in my endeavours to promote the prosperity and happiness of every class of its inhabitants.

ANSWER

To the Address from the Magistrates, Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the County of Prescott, Ottawa District.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my cordial thanks for the loyal, patriotic, and constitutional sentiments conveyed to me in your address.

With such feelings predominant in Canada, the continuance of affectionate connection with the parent state is, humanly speaking, secure; and the reciprocal benefits which attend it may be perpetuated. The prospect of prosperity to this country, under the protection of the British empire, is boundless.

I derive great encouragement from the assurance of your support in my endeavours to administer the government according to the principles of the British constitution, which unite inseparably a due respect for the authority of the crown, and a sincere regard for the voice of the people, whose welfare is the sole legitimate object for which any government exists.—To this object, my efforts will be unceasingly directed.

ANSWER

To the Address from the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the District of Brock, in Canada West.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my cordial thanks, for the assurance of concurrence and support conveyed in your address.

I feel most deeply your concluding prayer, that I may succeed in crushing every attempt, however disguised, to separate this noble colony from the parent state. It is by the loyalty and good sense of the people, that such attempts, whenever made, will be crushed, as they heretofore have been, by the same means. The design of separation is not now avowed, and I should be loth to impute it to any one who denies it. The secret intentions of men's hearts are known only to the Almighty Seer of hidden things. The

objects at present manifestly aimed at, by the party who are exciting obstruction to Her Majesty's government, are, that the authority of the crown shall be a nullity, that the Governor shall be a tool in their hands, and that all the powers of every branch of the constitution shall be usurped and monopolized by an oligarchy, who by any misrepresentation or misconception can obtain the support of a majority in the House of Assembly; so that there shall not be a vestige of the royal prerogative, or of any balance of power in the government. It is against these extravagant and monstrous pretensions that I am now contending; and I am unable to express the wonder with which I regard the inconceivable blindness of those persons, who, really desirous of preserving our connexion with the British empire, do not perceive that the success of such extreme views is incompatible with the relations of a colony with the mother country, and must tend to separation. I confidently rely on the good feeling and discernment of a vast majority of the people for the detection and defeat of schemes, which are either wicked or absurd, according to the animus with which they are respectively prosecuted by their several advocates.

I do not mean in the slightest degree to depart from the system of responsible government established by the arrangements of Lord Sydenham, and the resolutions of September 1841. I regard these jointly, as forming the acknowledged constitution according to which the government of Canada is to be conducted. The real enemies of this system, are the men who would render its successful operation impossible, by asserting the untenable and inadmissible pretensions above described; and who by misrepresentation of my resistance to their intended usurpation, strive to excite disaffection and to poison the minds of the people against me. In the prosecution of these views they pretend, that the unavoidable delay which has taken place in the completion of the Executive Council, and in the nomination of the several heads of departments, is a sign of my desire to set aside responsible government. It is, in truth, a proof of the very reverse. That delay, which no one can lament as much as I do, for no one can be in every respect so interested in its cessation as I am, has been caused, in a great measure, by their avowed and fixed determination to oppose any council not of their selection; and for the rest by my own anxiety to form such an administration as is likely to obtain the confidence of both branches of the Legislature, without which the successful working of responsible government is impracticable.

Allow me, gentlemen, once more to thank you for your public spirited support in what I believe to be the cause of liberty, order, and good government, and therefore indisputably the cause of the people.

ANSWER

To the Address from the Township of Hastings.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept my warmest thanks for your loyal address.

Your approval of my conduct is most welcome, and the generous sentiments which you express demand my gratitude.

I have earnestly endeavoured, and shall continue to endeavour, to carry on the administration of the affairs of this province according to the plan of responsible government which I have found practically established, and with good sense and moderation in all parties whose co-operation is necessary, I do not despair of success; but if there be any who suppose that the prerogative of the crown is to be surrendered, that the council is to be supreme, the authority of Her Majesty's government a nullity, and the Governor a mere tool in the hands of a party, all such are either blind or must be aiming at the separation of the province from the mother country.

While, however, the people of Canada are inspired with the loyal feelings which you express, the honour of the crown, the rights of the people, and the advantages we enjoy under the protection of the British empire will be preserved unimpaired, and by God's mercy may be handed down to your children's children from generation to generation.

May these and all other blessings be your portion. My heartfelt thankfulness will ever attend the remembrance of this occasion of meeting you.

THE END.

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