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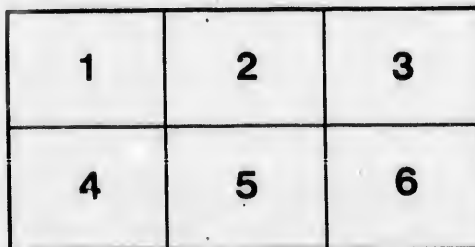
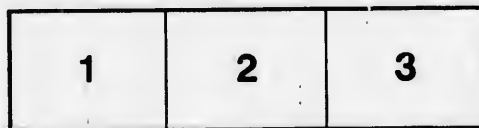
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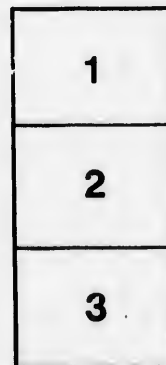
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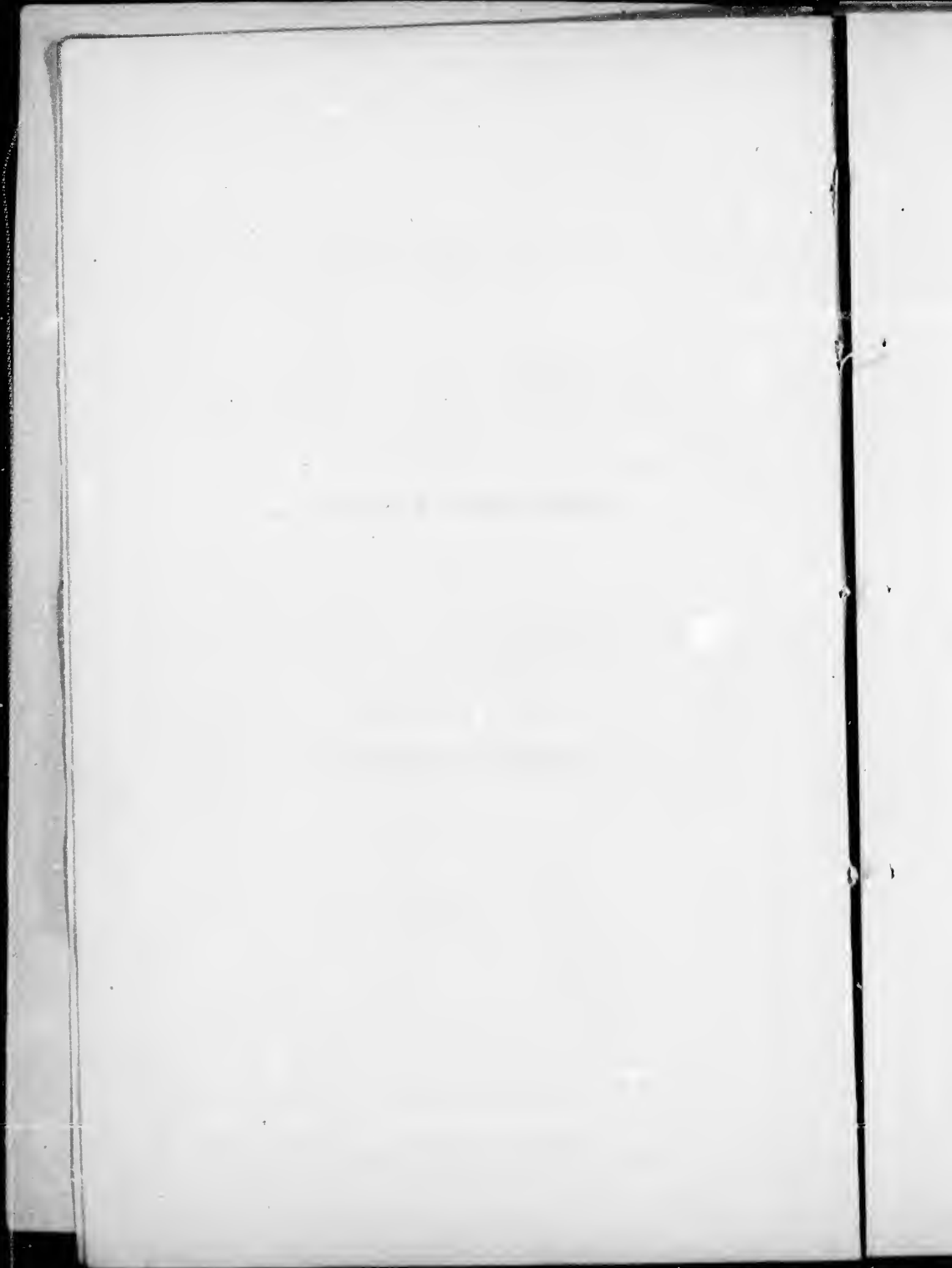
James T. Smith
James T. Smith
1874

ADDRESSES
TO
LORD AYLMER

FROM
Public Bodies in Lower Canada,

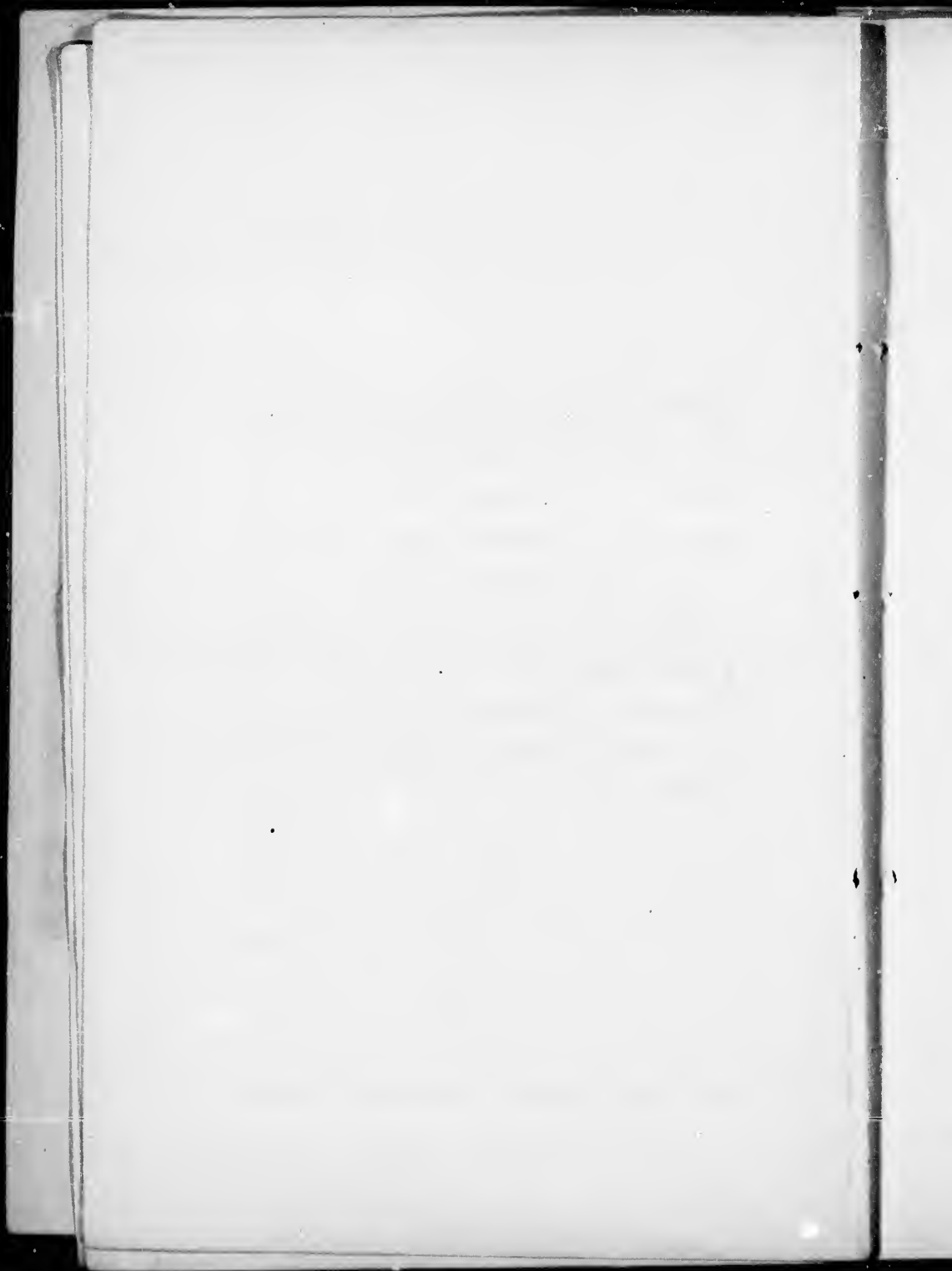
ON
HIS REMOVAL FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THAT PROVINCE
IN THE YEAR 1835,
WITH HIS ANSWERS.

1847.



NOTE.

THE following Addresses to Lord Aylmer, from Public Bodies in Lower Canada, on his removal from the Administration of the Government of that Province in the year 1835, with his Answers to those Addresses, have been printed by his direction, and are now presented to those of his friends who may be so kind as to take an Interest in the events of his Public Life.



ADDRESSES TO LORD AYLMER
WITH HIS ANSWERS.

Address from the Members of the Committee of Trade at Quebec.

TO THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K.C.B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

W E the Members of the Committee of Trade, appointed by and representing the mercantile community of the City of Quebec, duly appreciating the attention and urbanity which have characterized your Lordship's frequent communications with this Board, respectfully approach your Lordship, with an expression of our unfeigned regret, on the occasion of your intended departure from this country.

Deeply interested in the general prosperity of the Province, we cannot but de-

plore a circumstance tending to deprive it of the advantages which your Excellency's experience in its government, knowledge of its resources, and anxiety for its welfare, guided by your acknowledged character for uprightness of purpose, must have secured to it, had your continuance here been permitted.

Connected more particularly with the trade of the colony, both collectively and as individuals, we gratefully acknowledge the readiness so constantly evinced by your Excellency to advance its commercial interests, and must not omit especially to instance your Lordship's well-timed representations to the Home Government against the abuses of the Court of Vice-Admiralty, and yet more, those in favour of our Lumber Trade, that grand staple of this and the other British North American provinces.

Assailed as this most essential branch of our commerce has been, and continues to be, by a combination of persons ignorant of its importance, or interested in its downfall, we feel doubly sensible of the value of your Excellency's testimony in its behalf, ground-

ed too on your personal observation of its beneficial results.

Strongly persuaded of the close connexion between the commercial and political relations of a country, and fully sensible that security to trade can alone exist under the protection of a well ordered and consistent government, we view with apprehension the inconsiderate removal of your Excellency, as indicating a system of colonial policy, which, ready at the clamour of faction to sacrifice individual right to temporary expedience, threatens to subvert those national principles of good faith which have long given stability and character to British institutions throughout the world.

May it please your Excellency,

In respectfully taking our leave, we venture to express a hope that the affairs of Canada may still continue to occupy a place in your Lordship's recollection, and that the influence which his Majesty's approbation of your conduct cannot fail to confer, may be used, as we are sure it will be, to promote the true interests of this country.

We beg respectfully and most cordially to convey to your Lordship and to Lady Aylmer, our sincere wishes for your prolonged happiness, and for your prosperous voyage to that land whose battles your Lordship has fought, and whose honours you have won.

Quebec, 25th July, 1835.

*Answer to the Address of the Board of
Trade, Quebec.*

Gentlemen,

I THANK you very sincerely for the expressions of regret at my approaching departure from this country, conveyed in this Address from the Committee of Trade, representing the mercantile community of the city of Quebec; a community for which I shall ever entertain sentiments of esteem and regard.

I feel, Gentlemen, that I possess but slender claims to your thanks on account of any benefit which may have been obtained for the commercial interests of this colony

during my administration. Although animated by a constant desire to promote those as well as all other public interests in the province ; my efforts to that effect have been invariably met and counteracted by a baneful influence in the province, whose only chance of prolonging its existence is by retarding the general improvement of the country ; and many of those moments which under more fortunate circumstances, I should have been able to devote to the advancement of some useful undertaking, or some beneficial public measure, have been unavoidably occupied in contending (under disadvantages to which I forbear more particularly to allude on the present occasion) against assaults, some open, others disguised, levelled against the most valuable interests of the province, political as well as commercial, and which, should they be renewed and crowned with ultimate success, must prove fatal to the connexion between Lower Canada and the mother Country.

I am fully sensible, Gentlemen, of the great importance to British North America of the Lumber Trade, and be assured that,

although my official connexion with this country will cease to exist upon my departure from it, no opportunity shall be neglected by me hereafter of upholding that valuable branch of commerce, and of promoting as far as my very limited means will permit, every measure calculated to advance the commercial interests of Lower Canada.

And now, Gentlemen, in separating from you, let me desire of you to accept from Lady Aylmer and myself our very sincere thanks for the obliging expressions regarding us both, contained in the concluding passage of your Address, and in return to receive our cordial good wishes for the health and happiness of all those Gentlemen and their families, who are parties to it; and for the increasing prosperity of the commercial interest of the city of Quebec.

Castle of St. Lewis, Quebec,
25th July, 1835.

*Address from the Trustees and Stewards of
the Three Rivers Race Course.*

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K. C. B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Lordship,

WE, the undersigned the Trustees and Stewards, for the time being, of the Three Rivers Race Course, respectfully beg permission to approach your Lordship with the expression of our sincere regret at the annunciation and prospect of your Lordship's departure from this province, of whose public councils and social happiness your Lordship has been so long the guardian and ornament.

We feel it to be a duty especially incumbent upon us to thank your Lordship for the manner in which you have been pleased to distinguish the Three Rivers Race Course ; for having at once patronized the same with a liberality worthy of a true sportsman, and for three successive years presented us with

a handsome silver cup, to be run for by horses bred in the province: thus generously promoting innocent amusement in a country as yet but young in the sporting world, and the rural and agricultural interests of one of the most valuable provinces in the British Empire.

And now, my Lord, farewell! We beg to assure your Lordship that, in common with all classes of his Majesty's loyal subjects in this province, we shall ever entertain a high sense of your Lordship's distinguished worth in public and private life, as a liberal sportsman; and that we shall always rejoice to hear of your Lordship's welfare and happiness.

In conclusion, we beg that your Lordship may be pleased to convey to Lady Aylmer the sentiments of our sincere esteem, and of our grateful remembrance of the countenance which her Ladyship was so kind as to confer upon the Three Rivers Races.

Three Rivers, Lower Canada,
28th July, 1835.

*Answer to the Address from the Trustees
and Stewards of the Three Rivers
Race Course.*

Gentlemen,

I REQUEST of you to accept of my warm thanks for this Address, expressive of sentiments regarding myself personally which cannot fail of being highly grateful to my feelings.

It is very satisfactory to me to learn that my attendance at the Three Rivers Races has been favourably considered by the Subscribers, Trustees, and Stewards; and that, in doing that which has been productive of so much pleasure and satisfaction to myself, I have at the same time been so fortunate as to contribute to the advancement of the rural and agricultural interests of the Province.

It is with no small degree of regret, Gentlemen, that I take leave of you; and be assured I shall never forget the kind attention with which I have been received on the

occasions of my periodical attendance at your races, and more especially by their patron and chief supporter, the Honourable M. Bell, whose friendship and good opinion I shall ever esteem it an honour to possess.

I shall not fail, Gentlemen, to communicate to Lady Aylmer the obliging expressions regarding her, conveyed in the concluding passage of your Address, and which I am confident will be duly appreciated by her.

Address from the Members of the Montreal Turf Club.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K. C. B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

WE the Subscribers, Members of the Montreal Turf Club, and others, British subjects, inhabitants of the city of Montreal and its vicinity, avail ourselves of this occasion (which we are sorry to say may be the last) to express our regret, both

on public and private grounds, at the removal of your Lordship from the government of this province. At present it becomes for us a pleasing duty to tender our cordial thanks to your Lordship for the liberality with which your Lordship has encouraged amongst us one of those national sports to which British subjects are so much attached.

It is not alone to the British principles of government that we wish to cling. We are also anxious to preserve, as much as circumstances will permit, the sports and pastimes of our early home.

Thrice has this truly national sport been enjoyed at Three Rivers under the patronage of your Lordship, and on each of these occasions has your Lordship bestowed upon the winner of sport a valuable silver cup, in a manner truly gratifying, and with an affability of higher value than even the gift itself.

The effects of the encouragement thus given to the improvement in the breed of that noble animal the "horse" are already apparent, and its advantages sensibly felt in

an agricultural point of view throughout the province.

From the many proofs we have had of your Lordship's solicitude and paternal care, we indulge in the hope that that solicitude and care will not expire with your Lordship's administration. And although we have to regret in the retirement of your Lordship from the government of the province, the loss of that patronage which has on so many occasions been extended to us, yet we hope that whatever may have been thought worthy of your Lordship's attention here will not be forgotten by your Lordship elsewhere.

Upon this it is that we presume to flatter ourselves, that through the intercession of your Lordship, this province (which can boast of having been honoured by his Majesty's presence) may obtain that mark of royal favour which his Majesty has on many occasions graciously condescended to bestow on different parts of the united kingdom, a royal plate to be run for alternately at Quebec, Montreal, and Three Rivers, by maiden horses bred in the province.

In parting with your Lordship, we beg leave to tender the assurance of our highest respect and esteem for your Lordship's character. We shall ever feel a deep interest in your Lordship's health and happiness, and we wish your Lordship, with all our hearts, a prosperous voyage and happy return.

Montreal, July 1835.

*Answer to the Address from the Members
of the Montreal Turf Club.*

Gentlemen,

I THANK you most sincerely for the Address which you have done me the favour to present to me on the part of the Members of the Montreal Turf Club, and others, and which is flattering to my feelings in no ordinary degree. It is moreover peculiarly gratifying to me to learn that any little encouragement I have had it in my power to extend to the races established at this place, has had the effect of turning the attention of the public to the improvement

of the breed of that noble animal the "horse."

You may be assured, Gentlemen, that on my return to England I shall not fail to use my best endeavours to obtain for this province that mark of royal favour by which our Sovereigns have evinced their anxiety for the improvement of the breed of horses, and which has not I believe been confined to the United Kingdom, a king's plate having, as I have been credibly informed, been bestowed upon the Island of Jamaica.

Once more, Gentlemen, accept my thanks for your Address, which I shall ever preserve with care as a valuable testimony of personal regard on the part of the highly respectable body of Subscribers, whose names are affixed to it, and, believe me, the anxiety I have on all occasions expressed for the prosperity of Lower Canada is not a transient sentiment which will expire with my official connexion with the province. Wherever my destiny may lead me, its interests shall never be lost sight of by me, nor shall any opportunity of promoting them be suffered to escape me.

Address from the Members of the Committee of Trade of Montreal.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K. C. B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

WE the undersigned, his Majesty's loyal subjects, the Members of the Committee of Trade of Montreal, beg to assure your Lordship of our unfeigned regret at your approaching departure from this province.

Before that event takes place we are desirous of expressing our gratitude for the attention you have bestowed upon the commercial interests of this province; your care to obtain correct information; and the prompt consideration which the communications of our Association have invariably received from your Lordship.

During your administration of the government, your Lordship has manifested an earnest desire to promote the improvement

of the internal communications, and all local ameliorations ; a desire which, we regret to say, has not been productive of those benefits to the country which might have been expected, in consequence of the political distractions unhappily existing in this province.

From what your Excellency has effected, and the knowledge you possess of the trade and resources of the Canadas, we confidently rely, that, although your Lordship is about to retire from the administration of the government, you will not become indifferent to the commercial and agricultural interests of the inhabitants ; but that you will, at the seat of the Imperial Government, embrace any opportunity that may present itself, of impressing on the minds of his Majesty's Ministers the expediency of preserving the advantages which we at present enjoy, and the good policy of extending to these provinces such others as may not be inconsistent with the general interests of the empire.

We pray that our gracious Sovereign may give your Lordship that reception, and

grant you those rewards, which an honourable and impartial discharge of your public duties in times of peculiar difficulty so justly merit.

Montreal, 30th July, 1835.

*Answer to the Address of the Members of
the Committee of Trade of Montreal.*

Gentlemen,

I REQUEST that you will do me the favour to accept my very sincere thanks for the expression of regret at my approaching departure from this province, conveyed in this address of the Committee of Trade of Montreal.

It would have been highly gratifying to me if the attention, you are so obliging as to say I have bestowed upon the commercial interests, and the internal communications of the province, had been attended with the beneficial results which might have been expected.

I entered upon the administration of the

Government of this province with every disposition to devote my undivided attention to objects of real utility. Under what circumstances, and through what means, my efforts to give effect to that disposition have been paralyzed and rendered unavailing it is unnecessary for me now to describe; but the result has been, that at the close of an administration of nearly five years duration, I have little to lay claim to beyond an ardent desire to be serviceable to the province, without the power of accomplishing it.

Be assured, however, Gentlemen, that that desire to be serviceable to Lower Canada will not desert me when absent from, and no longer officially connected with it; and that on my return to the seat of the Imperial Government I shall not fail to urge the expediency of preserving to you the advantages you already enjoy, and the good policy of extending to these provinces such other advantages as may not be inconsistent with the general interests of the empire.

In answer to the concluding passage of your Address, I will only say that during

the whole course of my administration it has been my anxious study to discharge my public duties with justice and strict impartiality.

Address from the Constitutional Association of Quebec.

TO THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K. C. B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, the Executive Committee of the Constitutional Association of Quebec, deputed at a general meeting of the Members to present an humble Address to your Excellency, on your administration of the affairs of this province being terminated, beg leave most respectfully to express the unfeigned regret of the Association at your Excellency's approaching departure.

Your Excellency's untimely recall at the present crisis of affairs is the more to be deplored, as it precludes you from bringing to maturity the measure now in progress to-

wards the adjustment of the political difficulties which have so long retarded the prosperity of the province, and will necessarily deprive the Royal Commissioners of the advantages to be derived from the experience and local knowledge which your Excellency has acquired during a residence of nearly five years in Lower Canada.

We regret that the policy adopted by the Secretary of State towards your Lordship, and the motives on which his decision is grounded tend to convey the impression that his Majesty's Ministers are prepared to sacrifice the rights and interests of the inhabitants of British and Irish origin, resident within this province, to the misrepresentation and clamour of a designing party, who availing themselves of peculiar and accidental circumstances have misled his Majesty's Government, openly questioned the just subordination of the colony to the parent state, and avowedly inculcated resistance to its authority.

We therefore humbly pray that your Excellency will be pleased to convey to the foot of the Throne the views of the Asso-

ciation, as expressed in a series of resolutions, of which we respectfully submit a copy, and that you will assure our gracious Sovereign that he has not in the wide extent of his dominions, subjects more loyal or more devoted than the members of this Association, nor any more firm in their determination to maintain his authority throughout the colony, and defend the rights, privileges, and immunities which his Majesty's predecessors have been graciously pleased to bestow on its inhabitants.

In respectfully taking leave of your Excellency, we feel that we should not perform our duty to those whom we represent, did we not assure you of the profound respect felt by all for your exalted and manly character, and convey our sincere and heartfelt wishes that you may long enjoy the happiness to which a consciousness of having merited and received your Sovereign's unqualified approbation so justly entitles you ; and our hope that when the King may again require your Excellency's services, it may be in a situation where your liberal and extended views will be more justly ap-

preciated, and a fairer field afforded to carry them into effect than unfortunately for the inhabitants has been the case in Lower Canada.

Quebec, 5th August, 1835.

Answer to the Address from the Constitutional Association of Quebec.

Gentlemen,

I RECEIVE with sentiments of heartfelt satisfaction the kind expressions of regret at my approaching departure from this province, conveyed in the Address which you have just done me the favour to present to me on the part of the Constitutional Association of Quebec.

The relation in which I have been made to stand with the House of Assembly in discharging my public duty, having been assigned as a motive for my recall from this government by his Majesty's Ministers, I find it necessary to advert to certain proceedings of the Assembly regarding myself.

On two several occasions within the last

two years, complaints of the most serious nature, affecting my public character and conduct in the administration of the government of this Province, have been brought forward by the House of Assembly, in petitions addressed to the King and the two houses of the Imperial Parliament. Their petition addressed to the House of Commons, in the first instance, contained an urgent appeal to that honourable House to bring and to support impeachments against me before the House of Lords ; but although the committee to which that petition was referred was engaged during three months in investigating the various subjects of complaint it contained, their report subsequently adopted by the House does not allude in the remotest degree to the demand of the Assembly for my impeachment.

Nevertheless the Assembly, nowise discouraged by the failure of this first attempt, again approached the House of Commons during the present session of the Imperial Parliament with a renewed demand for my impeachment ; and to their former complaints others of a still darker complexion

were added. But all to no purpose—for it does not appear that any steps whatever have been taken by the House upon this second petition of the Assembly.

For the success of the House of Assembly in their attempts to injure me in the estimation of his Majesty and his confidential advisers, I have only to refer to the Despatches from the Colonial Department, recently published by my order in the Official Gazette of the province.

From the above rapid sketch it will be perceived that the various efforts of the House of Assembly to injure my public character have only ended in exposing the impotence of their hostility towards me.

But there is another point of view in which this subject deserves to be regarded, and it is one which involves considerations of infinitely more importance than any of a personal nature affecting an individual like myself.

The failure of these repeated attempts to establish the truth of charges so solemnly and so earnestly brought under the consideration of the King, and the two Houses of

the Imperial Parliament, unavoidably places the moral character of the House of Assembly in a very equivocal position ; and it may therefore be reasonably expected that the Assembly, in order to redeem its own credit, and in justice to their constituents, who are necessarily (however innocently and unconsciously) involved in this disreputable suit, undertaken in their name and on their behalf: the Assembly, I say, cannot but consider themselves imperatively called upon to renew their demand to the House of Commons for my impeachment before the House of Lords.

Should any such demand be made, the House of Assembly may be assured of having my best wishes for the success of it ; it is what I have long and ardently looked forward to ; for if, happily, their cause should ever come to a hearing before the House of Lords, my accusers will find when in presence of that august tribunal, that assertions, however confidently advanced, will not there be suffered to pass current for facts, neither will vituperation be mistaken for argument.

I come now to the subject of my recall from this government, which I cannot pass over in silence, since it is in fact the particular circumstance which has given rise to your Address.

It would be highly unjust towards those Ministers of the Crown who spontaneously, and without any solicitation whatever on my part, did me the honour of selecting me for the very important office of Governor in Chief of British North America, to suppose that upon that occasion they were actuated by any other motive than a conscientious belief that by so doing they best consulted the public interest.

In like manner those other Ministers of the Crown who have subsequently filled the situation of Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, and whose approval of my public conduct you are already acquainted with, must have considered that by maintaining me in the office of Governor in Chief they also were consulting the public interest.

His Majesty's present Ministers, however, immediately upon coming into office, have taken an opposite view of this Subject,

for I am now informed by Lord Glenelg, his Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, in his despatch of the 6th of May last, addressed to me, (which will be found amongst the despatches recently published by my order in the official Gazette of the province, for general information) that "he shall best consult the public interest by apprising me that my administration of the affairs of Lower Canada must be considered as finally terminated."

Although differing, as it would appear, from his predecessors in office upon this subject, it would be equally unjust to withhold from Lord Glenelg the belief that in removing me from the office of Governor in Chief of British North America, his lordship is sincerely convinced that he is "best consulting the public interest."

I will therefore only add that as the faithful servant and devoted subject of the King, and as the firm and constant friend of the people of Lower Canada of every origin, I do most sincerely wish that those measures which his Majesty shall be advised to adopt

for the settlement of the disordered and complicated affairs of this province may have the effect of establishing the authority of his Majesty's Government upon a solid and lasting foundation, for thereby alone will the public interest be "best consulted."

I cannot, Gentlemen, avoid saying a few words in answer to that part of your Address in which regret is expressed at what you are pleased to consider my "untimely recall" from this government.

I undertook the government of Lower Canada with a full knowledge of the principal difficulties with which it was surrounded, but these I did not despair of surmounting by a steady course of policy founded on the strictest impartiality, and although circumstances beyond my control have hitherto stood in the way of my success, I am, nevertheless, of opinion that the present state of the province, unpromising as it may appear to a superficial observer, holds out every encouragement to the adoption of measures that would at once put an end to the difficulties to which I have alluded, and which will cease to be formid-

able from the very moment of their being fairly grappled with.

To have been the instrument of carrying such measures into effect, would be to me a never failing source of gratification during the remainder of my life. Since, however, this has been denied me, I have only to hope that on my return to the seat of the Imperial Government, the representations it will be my duty to make, may be productive of good to the Province. Should such be the result of my removal from this Government, and that after having ceased to be officially connected with Lower Canada, I shall have the good fortune to accomplish more for its advantage than it was in my power to effect during my administration of its affairs,—then, Gentlemen, I shall say, that my recall, far from being “untimely,” will have proved a singularly well-timed measure.

You may be assured that I shall not fail to convey, if I may be so permitted, to the foot of the Throne the views of the Constitutional Association as expressed in the resolutions of which you have delivered me

a copy ; and in an especial manner I shall consider it to be my duty to represent to our gracious Sovereign (what is in truth the conviction of my own mind) that he has not in the wide extent of his dominions, subjects more loyal and devoted than the members of the Constitutional Association of Quebec.

The flattering testimony of the regard and good opinion of the Constitutional Association of Quebec, addressed to me in the concluding passage of your Address, could not fail to prove highly gratifying to my feelings under any circumstances. How much more so is it when I consider the efforts which have with such unwearied perseverance been made, to blacken and defame my character from the very hour of my arrival in Canada to the present time ; and that during that period every act of mine has been made the theme either of virulent invective, or unworthy detraction.

But, Gentlemen, the evil has produced its own remedy, since the favourable sentiments towards me expressed in your Address, and for which I now offer my warm

and sincere thanks to the Constitutional Association of Quebec, have furnished me with the best answer that can be made to those who have sought to injure me in the estimation of my fellow subjects.

And now, Gentlemen, farewell, and may every happiness and prosperity attend you, and all those who are parties to the Address which has just been communicated to me.

*Address from the Inhabitants of the Town
of Three Rivers and its Neighbourhood.*

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K.C.B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, the undersigned Inhabitants of the Town of Three Rivers, and the Neighbourhood, respectfully beg permission to approach your Lordship with feelings of deep regret at the anticipated retirement of your Excellency from the administration of the government of this Province, where you have so long, and so honourably maintained

the just principles of Constitutional Government.

We particularly regret that at the moment when engaged in the defence of the Constitutional Rights and Political Institutions of our Country, we should be deprived of the benefits arising from your Lordship's experience, wisdom, and prudence, which have hitherto shielded us from crude and speculative innovations.

We trust, however, that your Lordship will be pleased to assure our beloved Monarch, that it is our fixed determination, as loyal subjects, to maintain our constitution of government in its primitive integrity by every means in our power, and that we shall feel entire confidence in our success, while, in common with his Majesty we are defending the palladium of our inalienable rights.

While assuring your Lordship that we shall ever cherish a grateful remembrance of your virtues, both public and private, we beg the favour of your Lordship to convey to Lady Aylmer the unfeigned sentiments of our high esteem; and that along with

your Lordship, we sincerely wish her Ladyship a safe and pleasant voyage to the land of the fair and the brave.

Three Rivers, 24th August, 1835.

*Answer to the Address from the Inhabitants
of the Town of Three Rivers and its
Neighbourhood.*

Gentlemen,

I REQUEST that you will accept for yourselves, and that you will convey to the Inhabitants of the Town of Three Rivers, and the Neighbourhood, who are subscribers to the Address which you have done me the favour to present to me, my very sincere thanks for this gratifying testimony of their approval of my public conduct in the administration of the government of this Province.

From the moment of entering upon the administration of the government of Lower Canada until that in which it was transferred to the hands of my successor, I have constantly, and strenuously defended the

Constitution as by Law established, and I have endeavoured at the same time to promote the general interests of the Province to the best of my judgment and ability.

You may be assured, Gentlemen, that should an opportunity of doing so be afforded me, I shall not fail to make known to our beloved Monarch your fixed determination to maintain by every means in your power your constitution of government in its primitive integrity.

On the part of Lady Aylmer and on my own part, I thank you, Gentlemen, and all the subscribers to this Address, most cordially for the obliging expressions of regard towards us both which it conveys, and of which we shall ever retain the most grateful recollection.

Address from the Inhabitants of the Township of Grenville, and the Augmentation thereto.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
GOV. GEN. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

THE Inhabitants of the Township of Grenville and the Augmentation thereto, beg leave to address a farewell to their respected Governor.

It is not permitted that we should express our surprise and regret that your Excellency should be thus precipitately withdrawn from a government of unparalleled difficulty (at so critical a period), in the administration of which it is our duty to pronounce the approbation of loyal and dutiful subjects to his Majesty, for your Excellency's care.

Taking into consideration your Excel-

lency's high standing for moral rectitude, correctness of purpose, and anxious desire to reconcile the adverse and contending opinions of persons and parties under your difficult government, we should but poorly express our thanks for your unwearied zeal for his Majesty, and thoughtful consideration for his subjects, were we to trammel our affectionate farewell with further remark ; it is, however, much to be regretted, that all your care and solicitude should be met by a refractory, ungrateful and disloyal spirit on the part of certain leaders of a misguided party ; but within your own noble breast you will always discover the proper approbation of a good man, independently of the exaltation of rank, the sovereignty of power, or the flattery of sycophants. We have asked nothing from you, have received nothing from you, nor can we expect anything from you beyond the hope with which we conclude this Address, but we cannot permit your Excellency to depart without offering our unbought tribute of honour and esteem. We again bid your Excellency farewell, and

when in after time you shall permit your memory to recur to this, we pray you remember those who approved your administration.—Farewell.

*Answer to the Address from the Inhabitants
of the Township of Grenville, and the
Augmentation thereto.*

Quebec, September the 3rd, 1835.

Sir,

I CANNOT delegate to another the task of answering your letter of the 27th ultimo, addressed to Lieutenant Colonel Craig, accompanying an Address to me from the Inhabitants of the Township of Grenville, and the Augmentation thereto, upon my approaching departure from this province. I will, therefore, request of you to accept direct from myself the expression of my warm and sincere thanks for your obliging communication; and that you will do me the favour to assure the subscribers to the Address which accompanied it, that

my feelings have experienced a very high degree of gratification on perusing the effusions of their loyal and independent minds as therein expressed.

Pray, Sir, assure them, moreover, that although my connection with the affairs of Lower Canada has ceased, probably for ever, the prosperity and happiness of the Province will at all times be to me an object of deep interest; and that, wherever my destiny may lead me, I shall carry with me the most grateful remembrance of this honest and disinterested testimony of the regard and good opinion of the Inhabitants of the Township of Grenville, and the Augmentation thereto.

I remain, Sir,

Your very obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) AYLMER.

To Lieut. Col. Kaines,
&c. &c. &c.

Address from the Inhabitants of the Townships of Hull and Templeton.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K.C.B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

WE the Inhabitants of the Townships of Hull and Templeton in the county of the Ottawa and district of Montreal, with no ordinary respect, present this humble Address to your Excellency; regardful of the manner in which you have conducted the difficult government of Lower Canada, conferred upon you by our most gracious Sovereign, notwithstanding the conflicting circumstances which have been opposed thereto by a disaffected party of our fellow subjects, whose unfaithful discord renders them unqualified to appreciate the great advantages exhibited in our excellent constitution for their participation and their rising generation.

We therefore embrace the present period to express to your Excellency our unshaken

loyalty to our King, with our earnest wishes and zealous feelings for the prosperity of Canada, whilst we mingle with sorrow and deep regret your sudden and unexpected departure from amongst us, and deplore the circumstances of your Lordship's untimely recall,—particularly at a crisis, when your matured experience in the government could have best availed for the purposes of solving those anomalies (which it is pretended) exist in our excellent constitution: And can but deplore the event of that misguidance which has called forth this expedient, as but little lies in our power to neutralize the effects of this recall—beyond our expressions and feelings of veneration for your Excellency's future welfare: so we fearlessly and publicly thank your Lordship for the praiseworthy and independent principles that have regulated your administration.

And although about to be deprived of your fatherly energy in the encouragement of the juvenile arts and sciences, together with that of the Lumber Trade, so highly essential to the bettering the condition of the Provinces; we respectfully request that your Excellency may remember us when

ulterior visits require your eloquence at the seat of the Imperial Government, and that you will hazard your mental talents in support of that line of policy which may continue to encourage the staple commodity of Canada: namely, the Lumber Trade in all its branches,—the enterprizes in which support many thousands of his Majesty's subjects, both here and in the parent state.

And although incompetent demagogues attach blame to your administration, we who are a numerous population, chiefly of British origin, seriously concur, that you are deserving of a triumph instead of a persecution; and that your character should be placed on the pedestal of public virtue.

Consequently, we beg that your Excellency, together with Lady Aylmer, will be pleased to accept our last homage of respect and esteem, in a genuine, cordial, and warm-hearted farewell.

From Hull, in the county of the
Ottawa, on the twenty-fifth day of
August, and in the year of our Lord one
thousand, eight hundred and thirty five.

The Answer to this Address was conveyed in a letter written by Lieutenant Paynter, A.L.C., addressed, by Lord Aylmer's command, to Philimore Wright, Esq.

*Address from the Inhabitants of Quebec
and its Vicinity.*

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
RIGHT HON. MATTHEW LORD AYLMER,
K.C.B. ETC. ETC. ETC.

May it please your Excellency,

WE his Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, Inhabitants of the City and Vicinity of Quebec, beg leave respectfully to address your Excellency, on the termination of your government of these provinces.

We assure your Lordship in sincerity, that we regard the event with extreme regret, whether as affecting the public weal of the province, the interests of all charities and public institutions, or the private happiness of this society, which your Lordship has so truly adorned.

We are deeply sensible of the arduous and anxious duties which have devolved on your Excellency since you have assumed

this government, and of the devotion to them of all your energies. And it has been a source of high gratification to us, to observe that your Excellency's performance of them has called forth the approbation of his Majesty, and every successive Colonial Minister, who during that period has held the seals.

We beg leave to bear testimony to the earnest desire which your Excellency has invariably evinced to promote the welfare, prosperity, and general interests of the province, to the support and encouragement which your Excellency has zealously afforded to all useful institutions and undertakings, and the ready aid which the commercial interests have at all times commanded from your Lordship. On the other hand,—we acknowledge the efforts of your Excellency to remove all real greivances.

We have observed with satisfaction the enquiries and examinations personally made by your Excellency, as to the internal means of communication and improvable resources of the country, and the endeavours of your Lordship to promote the set-

tlements in Lower Canada of the emigrant population from the British Isles.

It is deeply to be deplored, that the political heats and animosities which have existed in the Colony have so blinded many from its true interests, that they have failed to avail themselves of the zeal and declared feelings of devotion to the country which have actuated your Lordship; unhappily indeed we have to regret the reverse, every obstacle having avowedly been thrown into the way of your Excellency's views and plans, by a party labouring to mislead the exemplary inhabitants of the country, and putting forth pretensions anything but such as your Lordship would naturally have expected from British subjects living under the mildest government in the universe.

We view the recall of your Excellency from the government of Lower Canada, as a serious misfortune to the province at the present juncture, when royal commissioners are about to enter into an enquiry into the political difficulties of the country: it will thus be deprived of the valuable experience and knowledge of your Lordship during

that solemn investigation ; but at the seat of the Imperial Government, his Majesty will be made aware, through your Excellency, of the real state of Lower Canada, and the true character and position of his Majesty's subjects therein.

Praying your Excellency to accept our best wishes for your health, your future prosperity and happiness, and with grateful feelings to Lady Aylmer, to whom the inhabitants of Quebec are so much indebted for her charities, her patronage of useful institutions, her kindness and hospitalities, we respectfully take our leave, assuring your Excellency that we shall long remember your administration of the government of this province, with sentiments of respect and esteem.

*Answer to the Address from the Inhabitants
of Quebec, and its Vicinity.*

Gentlemen,

I BEG of you to accept my grateful thanks for this truly gratifying Address, upon the termination of my government of these Provinces.

The regret you are pleased to express at that event calls for a corresponding expression of regret on my part, that my anxious endeavours to promote the general welfare of Canada should have fallen (as they have) so far short of those hopes and expectations, which I was sanguine enough to entertain at the commencement of my administration. I forbear to dwell upon this subject, and will only desire of you to be assured that to promote the true interests of Lower Canada to the utmost extent of my ability and to the best of my judgment, has been the object which (to the exclusion I might add of almost every other) has constantly

occupied my thoughts during the whole course of my administration.

I thank you warmly and sincerely in my own name, and in that of Lady Aylmer, for the kind expressions regarding us both, contained in the concluding passage of your Address. Believe me, Gentlemen, our hearts are deeply penetrated with a sense of these and other proofs of kindness and regard which we are daily receiving from the Inhabitants of the City and Vicinity of Quebec. In return, we cordially wish that all happiness, health, and prosperity, may attend you and yours.

Quebec, September 16th, 1835.

CONCLUSION.

IN addition to the foregoing Addresses, Lord Aylmer received other proofs of the regard and approval of the people of Lower Canada.

It may not be amiss here to mention, that although his departure from the shores of the St. Laurence was attended by demonstrations of kindly feeling on the part of the inhabitants of Quebec, which have made an impression on his mind never to be effaced, it was rendered remarkable on the other hand by the absence of his successor, who, contrary to the invariable custom of the Province on a change of governors, declined accompanying him to the place of embarkation.

In what light this discourteous and unprecedented proceeding was regarded at the Colonial Office, (where, however, it was probably well received) Lord Aylmer has never been informed; at all events it had

not the effect of injuring him in the estimation of the Canadian public, but the very reverse.

The effect of the new policy prescribed by his Majesty's Ministers for the government of Lower Canada, was not long in manifesting itself in the shape of a *Rebellion*, instigated and headed by those very men who had strenuously opposed Lord Aylmer's administration from its commencement to its termination ; and whose favour and support it was the object of his removal from the office of Governor in Chief of British North America to obtain.

No. 15, EATON SQUARE,
January, 1847.

