

We have commenced in this day's Supplement the Debate on the important despatch of the Colonial Secretary, which took place in the Assembly on Friday and Saturday last; and which we have reported most fully.

A variety of Resolutions were laid on the table; but the debate ultimately turned upon one introduced by his Honor the SPEAKER, stating it as the opinion of the Committee that the rules hereafter to be observed, as respects the tenure of public offices, should be highly gratifying to the House, as affording a sincere desire on the part of Her Majesty, to infuse into Colonial affairs, principles analogous to the British Constitution.

To this Mr. PARTELOW proposed an amendment, that there is nothing in the Despatch to call for any expression from the House on the subject of Colonial Government; and that in the event of any thing taking place to disturb the tranquillity of the Province, the House felt satisfied that any representation would receive due consideration on being laid at the foot of the throne.

Another amendment was proposed by Mr. L. A. WILMOT, expressive of the objects for which the Legislative assemblies: that the exercise of all Executive functions should be controlled by a due regard to the attainment of such objects: and claiming the right of the Assembly to advise and assist in such controul and direction; and resolving that the House should view the Despatch "as distinctly recognizing an efficient responsibility on the part of Executive Officers to the Representative Branch of the Provincial Government; which was lost by a majority of two, there being for it—His Honor the Speaker, Messrs. Fisher, J. M. Wilmot, Bardsley, Freeze, M'Leod, Palmer, J. A. Wilmot, Hayward, Hill, Woodward, Rankin, Connell; and against it—Hon. Mr. Weldon, Messrs. Allen, Barberie, M'Almon, Stewart, End, Wilson, Hanington, Street, Partelow, Jordan, H. T. Partelow, Gilbert, Boyd, Brown.

The question was then taken upon Mr. Partelow's amendment; which was carried by the casting vote of the chairman, Mr. Taylor, there being for it—Hon. Mr. Weldon, Messrs. Partelow, Jordan, Brown, Boyd, Gilbert, H. T. Partelow, Allen, End, M'Almon, Street, Barberie, Stewart, Wilson; and against it—His Honor the Speaker, Messrs. J. M. Wilmot, Woodward, Hill, Freeze, M'Leod, Hayward, L. A. Wilmot, Fisher, Connell, Bardsley, Rankin, Palmer, Hanington.

We have not room nor time for remark at present, with reference to a decision, which we have reason to believe is at variance with the expectations and desires of the people of this Province: and which will lead to very general animadversion thro' the Public Journals; but shall endeavor to publish in our next the remainder of the debate in question; and any communications, if not of too great length, which may be sent us; one we have already received; and shall insert it in the Sentinel on Saturday.

The Legislative Council have thrown out the Bill for the better observance of the Sabbath; and proposed to expunge Mr. End's Ryder to the Bill for the naturalization of aliens, which provided that they should express their belief in the scriptures; but which the House refused to do by a majority of 18 to 3. Aliens therefore can only now be naturalized under the Act of Parliament which compels them to take the Sacrament. There was a short discussion in the House which we have reported.

The House of Assembly have voted £24,525 for the Great Road Service during the present year; making with the sum voted last week for Bye Roads £40,000 for that important object.

UNIVERSALISM.

THE Rev Mr. HITCHINGS, of Saint Andrews, Charlotte County N.B.—Preacher of God's Universal Grace—will preach a sermon in the basement story of the new Baptist Meeting House in this Town, on Thursday evening next 5th inst.—Service to commence at 7 o'clock.

Commisariat, New Brunswick, St. John, 26th Feby. 1840.

SEALED TENDERS, the rates to be expressed in Sterling, will be received by Assistant Commissary General Goldsmith, at the Commissary Office in St. John, until 12 o'clock on Saturday, the 7th March next, for supplying the Ordnance Barrack Department, with Four Hundred wooden Tressels and Boards, to be delivered previously to the 31st March next at the following Stations, namely,

At St. John - - - - - 250.  
At Fredericton - - - - - 150.

A model of the articles may be seen on application at the Offices of the Commanding Royal Engineer at St. John and Fredericton, and payment will be made in Silver Money at the Army rates on delivery, subject to the approval of a Board of Officers.

Sufficient security will be required for the due performance of the Contract.  
(Royal Gazette)

CAUTION.

ALL persons are hereby cautioned against purchasing two certain Notes or Due Bills, drawn by the Subscriber, one for Sixteen Pounds, in favor of WILLIAM FRASER, dated in January 1837, and payable at the Crown Land Office—the other for Forty Pounds, in favor of JOHN D. LOWELL, dated in March, 1837, and payable at the same place. As the money was left in the hands of W. H. GALL (then Cashier of said Office) on the 31st March, (to pay the same.) Said Documents being fraudulently detained from the subscriber.

SAMUEL FAIRWEATHER.  
Fredericton, Jan. 8, 1840, 3w.

MR. SAMUEL FAIRWEATHER knows that the above contains a deliberate falsehood.—He knows that what he designates as Notes were mere Settlements or due Bills, and consequently could not be "fraudulently" withheld. He knows that they were not only paid but cancelled, and that they were offered to him; and he knows that he refused the acceptance of the vouchers of his account on the ground only of my having paid for him a just debt.—Had Mr. Fairweather entitled himself to further explanation, he would have received all that an honorable man would have a right to demand from

W. H. GALL.  
Fredericton, Feby. 27, 1840.

REMOVAL.

THE Subscriber begs leave to intimate to his friends and the public, that he has removed his Establishment to a Shop adjoining Mr. PENGLIX'S Cabinet Warehouse in Germain street, opposite Church-street, where he intends continuing his business as China, Glass, and Earthenware Dealer; and has lately received 20 crates assorted WARE, which, together with his former Stock, he offers for sale cheap for cash Wholesale or Retail.

HENRY BUXTON.  
St. John, 5th February, 1840.

fusion and operation of antagonist principles.—He freely admitted that he had every confidence in the present Executive government; but as difficulties had already arisen, so they might again arise. Where was the guarantee against them? Let them then seek to retain every constitutional remedy, to which they might be compelled to resort. The government was designed for the welfare and happiness of the people, and that House only knew what would best conduce to those desirable ends.

The learned gentleman then remarked on the practical operation of the principle involved in the Despatch, upon several members of the Legislative Council, who held offices of emolument from the Crown, and who might be more than ever exposed to the suspicion of dependence, which was desirable on every account to be avoided. But as to the Executive Councilors, who were members of that House, he could not see how they were placed in a different position by the Despatch, from that which they formerly occupied. Their tenure was "during pleasure" before, it was so now; and so long as the present liberal feeling was pursued, they would assuredly possess, as they now do, the confidence of the country. (The learned gentleman then went into the origin of the division of the Councils, and referred to the Despatch of Mr. Secretary Spring Rice, of Oct. 1834, on the subject; where he assigned among other reasons for the division, that His Majesty wished to call home members of the lower House to the Executive Council, in order to open a channel for free and unrestrained intercourse between the Executive and popular branches. Mr. W. then proceeded.) That channel was opened in 1837, and the House approved of the connexion.—They had found it work well, and he believed were desirous of pursuing it. But the hon. and learned member for Gloucester, conceived that the effect of the despatch, would be to deprive hon. Councilors of all freedom of opinion; and further that their number and influence might be so great, as to swamp the House and to carry through Executive measures, in spite of opposition. If such effects were at all probable, the sooner the connexion was severed the better, but he (Mr. W.) apprehended no such danger; and he should therefore be careful how they expressed themselves with regard to a system, which had so far worked well, and which gave them an influential representation in the upper branch. But as regarded his Honor the Speaker, he (Mr. W.) would prefer seeing him free of the Council, and exercising his prescriptive right of advice; and having that freedom of access to his Excellency's person at all times, to which by virtue of his office he was entitled; without being indebted for the honor of rank to the pleasure of the Queen's Representative.—Hon. Councilors however must be vigilant and careful, they had a narrow path to walk; but if they acted as they had done heretofore, they might rely on the support of that House; and if difficulties should arise, he was satisfied they would be found to act with freedom, fairness and independence. As to the word "responsibility," he (Mr. W.) loved to hear it.—It was fraught with meaning; it was a good old constitutional word, and involved a good old principle. Some persons were alarmed at the very sound of it; but they should know, that the entire constitution was an involution of responsibilities—from the Crown to the Parliament—from the Ministers to the Commons—from the Commons to the People—and from the People down again to the Laws. Responsibility pervaded the whole framework of our political system to the smallest corporation. How then could such alarm be manifested, at the very sound of the word?—Could hon. members divest themselves of their responsibility to their constituents? Should the local government be allowed to pursue a line of policy, without a legitimate responsibility to that House? Where hon. members prepared to say, that the Executive might do as it pleased, and that they would raise no voice of opposition or remonstrance? Was all enquiry and interference on the part of the popular branch as to the Executive proceedings, to be treated as unconstitutional? While he (Mr. W.) expressed his approbation of the responsible principle, he could not understand or admit that its operation would detract from the relative independence of any branch of the Legislature; and if the contrary could be shown, if it could be made to appear, that its operation would weaken or endanger those institutions of the government, which all esteemed and admired; or would authorise a departure from those wise and safe principles, which as good subjects they should ever respect and adhere, most cheerfully would he retract his opinion and acknowledge his error.—But until he were convinced by facts, admitted or proved, and by sound arguments; he should still maintain the opinions and principles he had that day avowed.

The remainder of this Debate on Saturday.

FOR THE SENTINEL.

Sir.—Please to accept my acknowledgements for the instruction I derived yesterday afternoon, from hearing the Rev. Mr. Birkmyre preach in his usual energetic manner on the sanctification of the Lord's day, a very excellent Sermon, which I should have missed but for the notification in the Sentinel of Saturday last.

In the hope that you will find a corner in your first Supplement for this brief and unpretending communication, I go on to say that in my judgment, the whole of the discourse reflected great credit on the talents and temper of the preacher, whose audience, a most crowded one, seemed to be highly gratified; and I for one, beg to express my sincere satisfaction at the general, perhaps universal concurrence of opinion in so many approving hearers, of almost every class of Christians not only in the town but in the Province.

The manner, in which that able and upright Judge, Sir Matthew Hale, was alluded to at the commencement, struck me as peculiarly appropriate in New-Brunswick; where lawyers greatly abound in comparison with members of the other learned professions. I will confess that when I looked around me at the close of the sermon, the conviction forcibly presented itself to my mind, that many a hearer besides myself, might like to possess a printed copy of the discourse in question. I now suggest to the immediate consideration of my brother hearers, whether its early publication in a cheap form for general circulation, might not in all human probability be likely, with the aid of Divine Providence, to prove useful as well to ourselves as to some of our families, and to considerable numbers, besides; who had not the opportunity and advantage of hearing it from the pulpit.

I have thrown out this hint, in the hope of being useful to the community at large, and now offering apologies to you; and if you, Sir, shall think my suggestion not undeserving of being put in type, to the public, also, I hasten, in order to obviate misapprehension in any question, to subscribe myself.

NO PRESBYTERIAN.  
Monday, 2nd March, 1840.

SACRED MUSIC!  
FOURTH EDITION of the UNION HARMONY for sale by HENRY FISHER, Jun.

the Sovereign stand in the estimation of this House and of the country; precisely in that situation in which a man may be supposed to stand, who is known to have urged a measure, which ten men of experience, of knowledge of the real interests of the Country, identified with its inhabitants and possessing their confidence, suffered the pains of official martyrdom rather than support. Is this the position in which they would place the representative of our beloved Queen? But he would carry out the case a little farther; these martyrs (at least such of them as are members of this House) will no doubt justify their conduct, and the House will hear them with willing ears—How then shall their successors stand in our estimation; and how will the new set and those who retired feel towards each other in doing business in this House. In every point of view, he considered this new measure fraught with mischief; and one which can never work well. He would like to see the House adopting a resolution of disapprobation upon it; or at least a resolution declaring the inexpediency of resolving at all upon it; and expressing its conviction that Her Majesty will at all times be graciously pleased to remedy and redress such grievances, as the province, or passion for change of her present advisers, may inflict on her loyal subjects in New Brunswick.

Mr. L. A. WILMOT after a few remarks with reference to the different series of Resolutions laid on the table, observed that it was really refreshing to enter into the discussion of a great constitutional question, when the minds of hon. members had been hitherto wholly engaged in the consideration of local affairs, of comparatively little moment. Hon. members would soon be called upon, to give a decisive vote one way or the other, and it behoved them to look well to the future effects of their present decision, on a subject of such length and breadth, and of such vast importance to the relative position of the popular branch of the Government. Much had been said, and written, and a great deal of excitement had been provoked on the subject contained in the Despatch before them, but he sincerely hoped that hon. members would consider and discuss the subject calmly and wisely, and come to such a conclusion, as would be best calculated to secure to them their due degree of influence, as one Branch of the Provincial Government. He begged them not to forget, that they were a popular body, that they had an important and invaluable trust committed to their hands; and that they should ever be careful not to fritter away their rights, or reduce themselves below their proper constitutional level in the scale of Government. Let hon. members beware of the sacrifice of popular rights. At the same time they should be careful not to trench on Executive functions, but on the other hand, to seek to preserve to each branch, its due proportion in the circulation of governmental power. He had tuned his mind to the origin of Colonial assemblies; and asked why and by what authority they were there? And for what purpose were they convened?—How did it happen that he saw around him, gentlemen from every county in the Province, called together by the representative of the Sovereign? He found the answer to these questions in His Excellency's commission, which requires him "to summon and call a General Assembly of the freeholders in the Province, and with the advice and consent of the said assembly, or the major part of them, to make, constitute and ordain laws, statutes and ordinances, for the public peace, welfare and good government of the inhabitants of the Province; and of such others as shall resort thereto."

Here then he (Mr. W.) found the authority for, and the object and design of convening that branch of the Legislature; and they should bear in mind, that it was their duty as well as their privilege, to tender their advice and assistance on all questions, involving the peace, welfare and good Government of the Province. And the very terms of the commission held out a pledge, that when constitutionally expressed, their advice would be regarded and acted upon. Through what other body, or in what other way, he would ask, could the wishes and interests of the people be so safely and correctly ascertained? With regard to the Executive branch, its duties and powers were well defined; and for the discharge of their duties in their various departments, different officers were required. The hon. and learned member for Gloucester had contended, that those officers should be independent, and that the despatch before the Committee would cut down that independence. In dependence indeed! (said Mr. W.) clothed with the rank, the honours and the emoluments of office, by the grace and favour of the Queen—spoken into official existence by Her royal will! Free to thwart her designs!—to oppose her wishes!—to disregard her behests! Such a position can never be maintained. Every principle of justice and reason was against it. As well might his (Mr. W.) domestic servants, disregard his orders, oppose his interests or assert their independence, and still insist on remaining in his employment. Hon. members well knew the struggles which were made to get even the judiciary of the nation, elevated to their present secure and proper tenure, beyond the mere "pleasure" of the crown; but only by the judicial officers was such independence of the royal pleasure attained. As it was at home, so it was here. But although the principle was not new in the colony, it had been hitherto suspended, and not carried out in practice, as it ought to have been; for he had seen the most extraordinary anomaly in this Province, of Crown officers openly arraying themselves against the power which gave them official existence; such a state of things ought never to have existed. Hon. members knew to what he alluded; the Legislative proceedings in the Province of 1837 had become a matter of history, and to them he referred. In that year and on a memorable occasion, persons holding honorable and profitable offices as servants of the crown; and bound in virtue of those offices to pay the most implicit obedience to their then Royal Master; were found publicly disregarding the mandate of Sovereignty, and placing themselves in direct opposition to its requirements. Looking at such conduct, and bearing in mind the situation in which the present Lieut. Governor was placed, when he assumed the government of the Province, surrounded by the avowed opponents of the very policy he was required to adopt and pursue; it was no difficult thing to trace out the origin of the Despatch before the Committee.

No doubt Lord John Russell had been apprised of those difficulties, and he immediately perceived the remedy at hand, and directed its application. The learned gentleman regretted that the Despatch had not been viewed by all around him, as involving nothing more than a just principle; and although he thought that principal coeval with the colonial constitution, yet he was aware that it had hitherto lain dormant and inactive. In the early history of the Colony, its application was not called for—perhaps not needed. Their forefathers drank deeply at the streams of passive obedience, and were by education and habit, opposed to every species of reform; not only so but for many years, no great political questions were raised. Now however, as the Province was rapidly increasing in population, wealth and representation, and as questions of the greatest moment had recently been agitated; and other questions of equal importance might hereafter arise, between the Executive and popular branches, it behoved them to watch with a constitutional jealousy, as well over their own rights, as against the undue dif-

ference to rule us; and now is the proper time to express our opinions, for prevention is better than cure. It was however, as it affected the Executive Council, that this despatch was particularly alarming; these persons have ever been looked upon as the advisers not the slaves of the Government; but they too are drawn within the paralyzing atmosphere of this despatch; they too must yield or die. And absurd and impertinent are all the acts of this Province, which require or permit certain things to be done, "by and with the consent and advice of the Executive Council;" they are reduced to the condition of mere cyphers. They dare not advise, they must consent. The effect of this new constitution on the House of Assembly, would be subversive of that independence which ought to belong to every branch of the Legislature, not more to us than to the others. He would ask the Committee to refer to the Journals of 1836, and look at the proceedings of the 7th March. There on page 157 in Resolutions No. 20 & 21 might be seen, what the House expected of Executive Councilors. He would read the Resolutions, "Resolved as the opinion of this Committee, that the members of the Executive Council should be increased to not less than 9 in the whole, in order that the administrator of the Government might be enabled at all times, and under every emergency, to derive the best information on every subject, affecting the several interests of the Province, that may be brought under his consideration."

No. 21, "Resolved, as the opinion of this Committee, that by calling some members of the House of Assembly to the Executive Council, which would not be considered a reason for vacating the seat of such member, a channel for constant and unrestrained intercourse would be opened, from which very considerable public benefit might be derived, and that it appears from the despatch of Mr. Secretary Rice of Oct. 1834, that His Majesty's decision in dividing the Councils of this Province was mainly influenced by the reflection, that this new arrangement might enable him to bring the Executive Government of the Province, into a free communication with the House of Assembly." Let hon. members compare the principle of these Resolutions, with that of the despatch now under consideration; and let them say, if they can, that we have now an improved constitution. What is the language of the Resolutions? "best information on every subject," "channel for constant and unrestrained intercourse," "free communication with the House of Assembly." But what is the spirit of the despatch? passive obedience, blind submission, support, assistance and co-operation in carrying out the views of the administrator of the Government. Oh, what a falling off is here, and how grievously have our hopes been frustrated. He (Mr. End.) felt himself particularly free, when urging the independence of the popular branch, for he was sure that no person would accuse him of any desire, to invest the House of Assembly with unconstitutional power. His political course during two eventful years, had been to strengthen and defend the constitutional power of the Crown; and he fully believed in this, as well as in every other North American Colony, that it was the permanent duty of every loyal man, to strengthen the constitutional power of the Crown. Situated as this Province is, in close contact with a democratic republic; the institutions of the country generally of a popular character; no aristocracy—no right of primogeniture to create one—daily intercourse with our republican neighbours—many of us connected with them by blood, or marriage, or personal regard—many of our leading men choosing to educate their sons in American colleges; these, and many other considerations had always led him to the conviction that if any overflowing measure of power was to be in any hand, it should be in the hand of the Crown.

But when he saw such a despatch as that before the Committee, which he looked upon as discredit and dangerous to the Government, and subversive of the just rights of the Assembly; he thought it was time to stop. He deprecated the idea of any collision with the other branches, but a collision, and a constitutional and reasonable jealousy and fear of undue encroachment were very different things. The balance of power, the true constitutional equilibrium, was maintained and supported precisely as the market scales, suspended from the apex of the triangle,—that triangle owed its firmness and its strength, and its power of sustaining that emblem of justice, to its equal height, equal weight, and equal pressure of its component parts; and so it was with the Constitution. And so long as each branch of the Legislature remained content with equal height, equal weight, and equal pressure, so long would the true constitutional balance be maintained, but no longer. The new constitution he repeated, placed the House in a most extraordinary position—presuming that no Colonial Minister would ever think of destroying the independence of those Executive Councilors, who had seats in this House. What did they do on the first day of the present House; they not only welcomed the new Councilors within the walls, but they chose one of them to be the Speaker; placing implicit confidence in the speech which he made to them on that occasion, and which hon. members may see on the first page of the printed debates. And he would read an extract for the committee, on a question raised by Mr. Wilmot as to the incompatibility of the situations of Speaker and Executive Councilor. "The Hon. Mr. Simonds contended, that the two situations were not incompatible.—He was of the same altitude and magnitude, and as free and unfettered to advocate the privileges of this House as before; the fact of a Speaker being a King's Councillor would naturally lead to such advice being given as would prevent collisions." He would ask hon. members could such a speech be truly made by His Honor the Speaker, if my Lord John Russell Despatch had then been in existence. He would go further; he would ask hon. members whether they could possibly have consented to the introduction of Executive Councilors into the House, if they had anticipated any thing so tyrannical. He was constrained to believe they would not, otherwise he must imagine them, basely deserting that post of honor, which the Constitution and the Constituency had confided to their care. He would ask the Committee where was the magnitude and altitude for which His Honor the Speaker then gave himself credit. His corporeal magnitude and altitude still remained; but his political magnitude and altitude, which alone could entitle him to be the Speaker of this House, the guardian of its just rights and privileges—where was it!—Gone—evaporated; blown down by the breath of Lord John Russell's nostrils—the baseless fabric of a vision, leaving not a trace behind.—The House might be told by the Executive Councilors, that they did not understand the despatch to affect their freedom of action, as much as he had supposed,—that it was time enough to censure the despatch when evil was found to grow out of it,—that they would support and assent to the will of the governor so long as they approved of it; and that when they found, that they could not conscientiously stand by, then they would retire. He would earnestly beg the attention of the Committee to the consideration of a state of things, which this doctrine might produce.—Suppose that a Governor in the honest discharge of his duty, or if you please labouring under a misapprehension; should propose some measure which the Executive Council could not support; their immediate retirement must be the consequence. How then will the representatives of

FRIDAY, FEB. 23.  
Lord John Russell's Despatch.

Mr. END having on a former day laid the following Resolution on the table—"Resolved that previous to the Despatch of Lord John Russell, the tenure of Public office in this Province was highly satisfactory to the people; and that despatch, by depriving certain of the public functionaries therein enumerated, of all discretion and freedom of action; and reducing them to the situation of mere instruments, in the hands of the administrator of the Government; has excited a feeling of distrust, and must weaken, if not destroy that influence which honest, independent, and conscientious public officers, would under the old tenure, naturally obtain in the minds of a loyal people;"—said, that as he happened to have moved the order of the day originally, it would be expected that the present debate should be opened by him; and he certainly approached the subject with a considerable degree of embarrassment. He considered it to be one of the greatest importance, not only as affecting the contentment, peace and happiness of the people of this Province; but as involving the character of that great nation of which we are an appendage, and of whose institutions we are justly proud. Lord John Russell it seems has vouchsafed to send forth his decree, by which a violent and most unnecessary change is made in the constitution of this Colony. This decree is contained in a Despatch, addressed to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor of this Province, dated 16th Oct. 1839. It was published by order of His Excellency, accompanied by a document bearing His Excellency's name, and entitled a "circular memorandum." Some of the public prints had animadverted in no very measured terms, on the conduct of His Excellency in publishing this circular memorandum.—He thought those animadversions deserving only of abhorrence and contempt; and that His Excellency on frankly declaring his opinion and construction of the Despatch, was only acting in consistency with the character which he has maintained as a man of candour and truth, a soldier and a gentleman. What he would ask could be more natural than that such a man, perceiving that this despatch contained matters involving the constitution of the Colony, and the happiness of its people, should honestly declare his construction of its contents. He (Mr. E.) protested that so far as he could understand plain language, that despatch could not be misunderstood; but that if any thing equivocal or of dubious meaning could, by any exercise of ingenuity be found in the despatch, it was rendered perfectly comprehensible by the Circular Memorandum; and he honored the head and the heart of the man who had framed and published that circular memorandum. Receiving it therefore as a key to the despatch, the Committee were safe in taking up both documents; and it was most consolatory to find that in debating this question, there was nothing left for imagination or subtlety—every point was rendered plain and comprehensible; and he trusted that members would discuss it and resolve upon it as became men who had a duty to perform to the honest, loyal and confiding constituency of this Colony. Some of the Resolutions which had been laid on the table, seemed to contain certain expressions, from which he concluded that the framers had understood more from the despatch, than its language warranted. For instance, that gross political deception, that ignis fatuus, that baseless visionary fabric, called Responsible Government, was supposed to lie hidden among its lines. He would ask, where, in what part of it, from first to last was that absurdity to be found. Whenever that question should come fairly before the House, and that members could really say what was meant by Responsible Government, he was quite ready to give his mind upon the subject, but at present he would confine himself to the despatch, and its accompanying memorandum. The sum and substance of it is this,—that (to use the words of the despatch) "although during two reigns, good behaviour in office has been considered a security to a public officer, and that every public functionary thought himself safe in his office while doing his duty; yet it is now time that a different course should be pursued, and that in future the will of the Governor, or a change in the person of the administrator of the government, is to be considered sufficient reason for removal from office, and that nothing more is required, than a ready obedience or an abstinence from dissent from the views of the Governor whatever they may be."—And the despatch goes on to enumerate the officers, who are declared to be within this vortex,—the Secretary—the Receiver General—the Surveyor General—the Attorney and Solicitor General—the Treasurer, the Sheriff a Provost Marshal,"—and to this list (says the despatch) must also be added the members of the Council, especially in those Colonies where the Legislative and Executive Councils are distinct bodies. His Excellency in his circular memorandum, has declared this to be "a new, and in his opinion, an improved Constitution." This is His Excellency's opinion, and in the true spirit of the Constitution; this House is also entitled to give its opinion; and in so doing it should not allow itself to be influenced by any feeling of deference; but by a sense of that sacred duty which the representatives of a free people should feel themselves animated with a right to govern their deliberations. For his part, he by no means considered it to be "an improved constitution," nor indeed was it in some respects at all new.

It was always an understood thing, although not expressed, that the views of Government ought to be supported by certain of the Public Officers enumerated in the Despatch; but where was the necessity, or where was the prudence in now declaring it so palpably.—Did Lord John Russell imagine that the Secretary, or the Receiver General, or the Attorney General, or Solicitor General, or any other of the "Generals," would be at all elevated in the estimation of the people, by his declaring that they were persons who had no will or opinion of their own, but were bound hand and foot by the trammels of office; and that whenever they or any of them hazarded a dissent from the views of the Governor, that instant he was liable to be turned out. How can any Government be strengthened by the published degradation of its officers; what can be the nature of that support which is required to be continual, under all circumstances, and must be sometimes given without regard to merit,—unprincipled, aye profligate; and surely the character of any Government must be depreciated by the co-operation of unprincipled agency. Hitherto in this Colony we have always considered Public Officers to be Public Servants, appointed by a just end paternal Government to perform certain duties fearlessly and faithfully, to the King and to his people; and that when a Public Officer was found honestly and conscientiously doing his duty, he was shedding the brightest lustre upon the commission of his sovereign; and best serving the end of his official creation; because the safety and happiness of the people was the true end and view of a just Government. But what a lamentable change will his Lordship's despatch make in the opinion, which the honest yeomanry of the Province formerly entertained, and how embarrassed, prostrated and degraded are those public officers. He said he was well convinced that while the present Lieut. Governor remained at the head of affairs, the people would never feel the effects of this arrangement;—nor would it, he supposed, ever affect the working of the political machine, but he dreaded the day when a bad Governor might