

own procurement, and attribute all the evil—often the result of their own particular doings—to others; who minister to the prejudices of the many, with high sounding professions of what they have done or will do;—and who in the hour of trial are generally found every where or any where, but at their posts. These are your popular men, who legislate so much in Vacation and so little in Term. They may be followed by an admiring people to the Polls: but when business of importance is to be done, the most ardent of their friends generally select more determined advocates. Do not misunderstand me: there is a large class of thinking and substantial men in the Country, whose good opinion I prize, and in whose judgment I place confidence. Such men I have felt it a pride to represent, and a pleasure freely to consult. They know that at all times they have found me ready with counsel and advice, anxious to promote their interest and jealous of their rights; that I have not only entered into their feelings and wants, but visited their Settlements from time to time, in order to understand and appreciate their peculiar condition; that I am always found at my post, endeavouring, as far as my health and humble abilities enable me, fearlessly to discharge my duty.

I desire not to retain power when I have been deprived of the means of beneficially exercising it. Though I do not believe that my rejection by my native County would exclude me from the Legislature, as I think some other constituency would return me, unless I should prefer quietly to submit to such a result, still I should regard it as a political discouragement. I am not sure that such an event would be any injury to me personally: as I should be enabled thereby to devote to my private business, time which I have hitherto given to you; and the duties of my Profession afford me an ample field for the exercise of my faculties.

It is no wonder that jealousies should have arisen with regard to persons connected with the Government under the old system, when it was in a state of continual antagonism to the Assembly, and when all its acts were beyond Provincial controul. Then the Representatives of the people could enact Laws and appropriate large sums of money, but they had no controul over the persons appointed to carry them into execution. Then the Government was enveloped in mystery. Under the new system it will be what it should be, an embodiment of yourselves; so constituted as to secure popular influence and an efficient discharge of public business, with its different members accountable to the Legislature for their public conduct. Before its introduction, Lord John Russell foreshadowed it in the following language:—

“The practice has unfortunately prevailed that there has been one set of men enjoying the confidence of the Governor, forming very often a small party in the Colony, distributing the Revenues of the Colony according to their own notions, and having the great skill and practice which long experience gives in disposing of the property and guiding the administration of the people; on the other hand, there have been men ambitious perhaps, stirring perhaps, but at the same time, of great public talents, and that these men should be excluded from their share in the administration, seems an unfortunate and vicious system, and I think that by the rule of administration a better practice ought to be introduced.” And again, “I know of no better way of giving confidence to the Provinces, and at the same time making the leaders of the Assembly practical men of business, than by appointing them to situations of official trust and responsibility.”

I believe that the establishment of Departmental Government will be attended with permanent advantage to the Province. Thus far it has not been what its opponents have described it—a mere scramble for office. It will give full scope for the exercise of talent and character; if it do not gradually lead to an improvement in our financial condition, and in the management of our provincial affairs, and to a diminution of the expense of the administration of the Local Government, it will be the fault of the people. My opinion as to the remuneration which public officers should receive, is well known; and notwithstanding past reductions, I am convinced that the expense of the Civil Government is now greatly beyond the means of the Province, and out of all proportion to our population.

It is the bounden duty of all so to educate and enlighten the Country as to enable the people to sustain the increased political power which they now enjoy. What the Government may do or attempt to do, I am not prepared to state. If you expect a working Government, much must depend upon the constituencies. I am convinced that the mode of conducting the public business requires amendment; and that in the language of Lord Sydenham, “the local administration should lead the way in improvement, and submit for adoption whatever may be calculated to remove abuse, or promote your advantage.”

If the Parish business be gradually transferred to the local authorities, and the Executive Council undertake to conduct the general business of the Country, it will ensure the performance of better work, and save much of the time and expense of the Legislature.

Gentlemen:—I have felt it due to you, I have felt it due to my constituents and political friends in general. I have felt it due to myself, to refer thus hurriedly to several subjects of public interest with which I have been connected, I shall not soon forget the kindly feeling, which you in your too flattering Address, have evinced towards me. As I have entered the political arena, I am not disposed to shrink from any responsibility resulting therefrom, nor shall I quail in the hour of trial. If my constituents

should prefer a more pliant Representative, I shall cheerfully retire to the quiet of private life, and enjoy that comfort, of which, in my anxiety to promote your interests, and determination not to neglect my own business, I have hitherto frequently deprived myself; in the firm conviction that I have done my Country some service, and impressed with the truth of the sentiments of the Grecian Philosopher, that “the reward is to the dead.”

Yours, &c.

Fredericton, July 13, 1848.

CHARLES FISHER.

On Friday last a Deputation of the Wesleyan Ministers of the New Brunswick District waited on the Lieutenant Governor, and presented His Excellency with the following Address:—

To His Excellency Sir EDMUND WALKER HEAD, Baronet, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Wesleyan Ministers of New Brunswick, under the direction of the British Conference, being assembled in our annual District Meeting, in Milltown, embrace the opportunity thus afforded us of collectively approaching Your Excellency, and of desiring Your Excellency to accept our sincere and cordial congratulations on Your Excellency's accession to office, as Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Brunswick.

As faithful and loyal subjects of our Most Gracious Sovereign, we rejoice in the continued and unabated interest manifested by Her Majesty's Government in behalf of this important and flourishing Province; and we gratefully recognize in the high and paramount trust committed to Your Excellency, an assurance of Her Majesty's determination to perpetuate the cherishing care, and the powerful protection so long vouchsafed to this portion of the Empire, by Her Majesty's benignant and imperial sway.

By our ministerial association with the British Conference of Wesleyan Methodists, we have been taught sacredly to reverence the pure Word of God, and, therefore, have been put in mind to be subject to Principalities and Powers; to obey Magistrates; and to be ready to every good work; and Your Excellency may be assured of our determination to enjoin upon our Societies and Congregations the same godly principles, so that both they and we may walk by the same rule, and mind the same thing.

The declarations of our revered Founder—the regulations established for our conduct—our observation and experience in this Colony—all these confirm our sincere convictions that, as Ministers of “the Gospel,” we best serve our country, and secure our connexion with the Crown and Government of the Empire, by continuing, with singleness of mind, faithfully to preach “Jesus Christ, and Him crucified,” wholly disclaiming all sympathy with mere political factions and party alliances, and confining ourselves to the discreet and proper exercise of the rights and privileges we enjoy under our excellent and unrivalled Constitution.

In conclusion, we beg leave to assure Your Excellency, that our united and fervent prayers shall be offered up to Almighty God, beseeching him to make Your Excellency's person and government objects of his peculiar care, and soliciting for Lady Head and Family His especial favour and protection.

We are,

Your Excellency's most obedient servants.

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following Reply:

MR. KNIGHT AND GENTLEMEN,

I acknowledge with hearty thanks the good wishes and congratulations expressed in your Address on the part of the Wesleyan Ministers of New Brunswick.

The Christian zeal of the Wesleyan body is, I can assure you, fully appreciated by me.—I know well what your exertions have done in England, both in remote and in populous districts, and I look with confidence to the action of the same principles and the same energy in this Province of New Brunswick.

I am well aware, moreover, of your loyalty and attachment to your Sovereign, and to the British Constitution. I feel that this loyalty and this attachment rest on the sure foundation of reverence for the memory of your Founder, and the solemn sense of dutiful obedience to the revealed Word of God.

I will only add my thanks for the promise of your prayers in my behalf, and in that of my Family, and the assurance that you will always find me ready to promote what, I trust, you will consider the best interests of Religion in this Province.

To the Rev. R. Knight,
and the Wesleyan Ministers of New Brunswick.

ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of William Tyng Peters, late of Fredericton, in the County of York, Esquire, deceased, are requested to hand the same, duly attested, within three calendar months from this date, into the Office of George Botsford, Esquire, at Fredericton; and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the said George Botsford, whom I have duly authorized to receive the same, and to give acquittances therefor.—Dated at Fredericton, this 27th April, 1848.

I. C. PETERS, *Executrix.*