

tionally communicated by Message; and you may assure yourselves, Gentlemen, that feeling, as I do, peculiar Satisfaction in being placed, through His Majesty's Favor, in a Situation to forward His benevolent Intentions, I shall most cheerfully concur in every Measure advancive of the Prosperity of this Colony, and consistent with the general Interests of the Empire, which justly claims, and I am fully satisfied will ever experience your warmest Attachment and Support.

*May it please your Excellency,*

WE, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Legislative Council of the Province of Lower Canada, beg Leave to return you our humble Thanks for your Speech from the Throne.

Whether our Thoughts are confined to the past and the present, or extended to the future Condition of this Country, in every View we perceive Motives to unusual Solemnity, and find ourselves embarrassed for Language to express the Sensations excited by this singular and eventful Day.

All Praise to the unerring Providence of God, which, after rending the Bands asunder that united Canada to the Power that planted it, now rescues it from the Tragedies acting upon a Theatre of Anarchy, outraging Humanity, and even to Savages a Reproach.

We confess, therefore, our grateful Acknowledgments to Heaven, that on our Discharge from that Connection we were delivered over to the Care of a Monarch, who, by making the Success of His Arms the Means of extending His Beneficence, has an uncontroversial Right to our affectionate Fidelity, and most of all for that last and greatest of the repeated Instances of His Munificence, by which we enter into a generous Participation of the Privileges and Safety of native Inhabitants of a Kingdom, distinguished for its Felicity under a political Frame of all others best calculated to enlarge and secure it. God Almighty give us the Wisdom to preserve this inestimable Treasure, and to hand it down to our latest Posterity.

After such a Declaration, made with equal Piety and Loyalty, we know not how to add stronger Assurances of the Gratitude we owe to a Sovereign, to whom we pledge ourselves in all our Councils for the Welfare of this remote Part of His Dominions, never to be unmindful of that true Test of Colonial Merit, the Abandonment of every Partiality repugnant to the general Interest of that Empire, of which it has pleased the Almighty and wise Arbiter of the World to make us a Part.

Accept our Thanks, Sir, for your friendly Recommendation to the Harmony essential to our Prosperity; and be assured of our Confidence in every Measure that can bring Credit to an Administration disposed to co-operate with the King's Grace, and the Generosity of His Parliament; with the Example of that, the most illustrious Diet of the World in our Eye, we will make it our Study to follow the Steps of that Branch of it, which we are constituted to supply in the humble Sphere of a subordinate Legislation.

His Excellency's Answer.

Gentlemen,

Accept my warmest Thanks for this Address, which is highly descriptive of the affectionate Loyalty and Gratitude that are so justly due to the best of Sovereigns,

and affords the most flattering Hope that while your Councils are directed to such Objects as may ensure the Prosperity of this Province, you will not be unmindful of the general Welfare of the British Empire.

To his Excellency Alured Clarke, Esq; Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Lower Canada, Major-General, commanding His Majesty's Forces in North America, &c. &c. &c.

*May it please your Excellency,*

WE, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Members of the House of Assembly of Lower Canada, in Assembly met, beg Leave to return you the Thanks of this House for your Excellency's Speech.

Truly sensible of the paternal Solitude of our most gracious Sovereign, in watching over the Happiness of His People, and of the Justice and Benevolence of the Parliament of Great Britain, in granting to His Majesty's loyal Subjects of this Province a new and liberal Constitution for their Colonial Government, we shall ever retain the most grateful and lively Sense of the Duties we owe to the Parent State; and we feel ourselves strongly called upon to acknowledge your Excellency's great Attention to us individually, in assembling us at a Time least inconvenient to our private Affairs, and for providing so suitable a House for our Reception.

We cannot express the Emotions which arose in our Breasts on that ever memorable Day, when we entered on the Enjoyment of a Constitution assimilated to that Form of Government which has carried the Glory of our Mother Country to the highest Elevation.

It is a very high Satisfaction to us to have an Opportunity of joining in Praise and Admiration of the System of Government of Great Britain, which gives to it so decided a Superiority and Advantage over other Nations; but how much greater is our Happiness in forming, at this Period, a Part of the Subjects of such a Government, of which we more and more feel the benign Influence.

We beg Leave to assure your Excellency that our Feelings and those of our Constituents, fully sensible of the Magnitude of the Blessings conferred by the Change that brought us to so memorable a Convention, are of the most lively Nature, and, next to our Gratitude to the Almighty Arbiter of the Universe, we cannot sufficiently extol the Magnanimity and Grace of the King, the common Father of His People, and of that Parliament which has so generously co-operated for the Establishment that is most deservedly the Subject of our general Joy.

It is an unparalleled Happiness for us to have an Opportunity of presenting to His Majesty our loyal Thanks, and of expressing to Him our Gratitude: Such Homage is the Language of our Hearts, and is due from us for all the Favours with which we have been loaded. That Duty fulfilled, we will turn our Attention, with most ardent Zeal, to forming such Laws as may tend to the Prosperity and Advantage of our Country.

Considering the Condition and Desires of the People we represent, our utmost Care shall be directed towards such ordinary Provision as the Common Weal may require; and if any Measures conducive thereto are necessarily postponed for more mature Consideration in a subsequent Session, we will at least exert our Endeavours that no Objects of indispen-  
Utility