

members of the legal assemblies, became members of their Congress, illegal ones. and the people felt no difficulty in according to the same men, under a new name, their old and usual obedience; they saw and felt their connections with their assemblies, and habit as well as Inclination led them to obey, in preference to a remote legislature. — The same thing will again happen, when similar circumstances shall arise. More than twenty years have expired since the conquest of Canada: the Canadians are in some degree habituated to obey acts of parliament. — Their numbers and Commerce have increased under the present mild establishment, and reverence and respect for the laws of their conquerors, must necessarily follow, and Opinion the best Type of Obedience has become settled: why then my Lord would you dash the fair hopes of twenty years labour, assiduity, and experience, by introducing to a people naturally Monarchical, all the turbulence, and horrors of a New England republick: why my Lord let a few artful Americans, or sanctified hypocritical presbyterians, persuade you that such is the wish of the peaceful Canadians; the reasons of the measure I think I could anticipate, and would venture to pledge myself to demonstrate them all inadequate to the justification of so reprehensible a mode of Colony government — I am aware of the import of the last assertion, and though it

may be designed as a lure to repenting prodigals, I shall not retract my engagement. I know I have candid and ingenious men of both parties against me. I acknowledge that the sensible and argumentative M^r. Powis brought in a petition to parliament in the last session, and that then ministers promised something that might be construed into an approbation of the measure. M^r. Powis has been once mistaken, and openly acted against the measures that opposed his darling pursuits: and I flatter myself the same candour and love of truth and the constitution, will lead him to retract in this instance. — Lord Sheffield has also in a note of his laborious and useful publication, asserted the necessity of such a measure. But conscious as I persuade myself his Lordship was of the incaution, and error of that note, he has left it out in subsequent editions — But upon what pretences my Lord change the constitution of Canada. as a conquered country my Lord they are not subject to such laws, as the conquerors may impose, but entitled to the constitution and laws of the conquerors themselves: being by the very act of conquest separated from one society, and added to another — why then my Lord deprive them of the blessings of the English constitution, by substituting a turbulent republick, originating from themselves, and at once subjecting them to the tyranny of a few artful Americans settled among them — One source of consolation yet remains, the King himself