

were imparting to a favorable portion of their fellow subjects.

2d. The Provincial Parliament, in its constituent parts, is, in fact, composed, like that of the parent State, of three branches: one, elective by the People, like the House of Commons; another, erected by the King, either hereditary or for life, at his pleasure, like the House of Lords; and the other, consisting of the King himself. Thus formed upon the British model their respective prerogatives, privileges, functions and forms of proceeding would naturally be conformable to those of the British Parliament, in all respects compatible with their Colonial state, and not otherwise provided for by law.

3d. It was actually understood and intended by the British Parliament to be a transcript of their own constitution; as appears by the declarations of the leading members of both Houses, who passed the constituting act. Lord Grenville, one of the Ministry, among other things, said: "Absolute Monarchy, absolute Aristocracy, absolute Democracy, had been tried in the scale of experience, and had been found wanting. Our own constitution, which was compounded of these three, was the first in the world, and the envy of every surrounding nation. It was for that reason, that they were now about to communicate the blessings of the English Constitution to the subjects of Canada, because they were fully convinced that it was the best in the world. The Legislature of Canada consisted of three parts, representing that of this country. The Governor represented the King; the Legislative Council represented that body in this country, whom he had the honor of addressing; and it had been objected, among other things, to that Council, that it would consist of two different classes of persons, some only to sit for life, and others by inheritance. He said, there was precisely the same objection to the present assembly he had then the honor of addressing. Some of that house derive their titles by inheritance, while others only sit for life, and a third class only during one Parliament. He said, the Government of Great Britain had been anxious to communicate to Canada a participation of all the blessings of the English Constitution, as far as the circumstances of the case would admit. They did not mean to give Canada exactly the same Constitution, as, for instance, 558 representatives. That was impossible in the nature of things; but their great object had been to adhere as nearly as possible to the purity and principles of the English Constitution, in every part of the Bill; and being conscious that the Bill, upon the whole, was likely to answer the purposes for which it was intended, he hoped it would meet with that support and attention from their Lordships, which the magnitude and importance of the object required." It is worthy of observation, that Lord Grenville is very particular in pointing out the strict analogy between the Legislative Council and the House of Lords, of which he was a member. He is more general, but not less explicit, in his ideas of the Assembly. In point of numbers, and whatever else is "impossible in the nature of things," the Provincial Constitution was not meant to be "exactly the same" with that of England; but "as far as the circumstances of the case would admit," "as nearly as possible," it was "their great object to adhere to the purity and principles of the English Constitution." It is one of the most settled, well known and important principles of the English Constitution, that the House of Commons have the exclusive privilege of originating money bills, and that the House of Lords have no right to interfere with such Bills by amendments. The enjoyment of that constitutional principle in this Province is not "impossible," on the contrary, "the circumstances of the case admit" it here, as fully as in England. Upon the authority of Lord Grenville, then it was intended intended and understood to be communicated to us, among the other "blessings of the English Constitution."

4th. In this sense, also, the Provincial Government was commenced, and went into operation. Lieutenant Governor

Simcoe, the first Representative of the King, with fresh instructions from the very Ministry, under whose auspices the act was passed, opened the first Session, with these memorable declarations, addressed to both Houses: "I have summoned you together, under the authority of an act of the Parliament of Great Britain, passed last year, which has established the British Constitution, and all the forms which secure and maintain it, in this distant country."

The wisdom and beneficence of our most gracious sovereign, and the British Parliament, have been eminently proved, not only in imparting to us the same form of government; but also in securing the benefit, by the many provisions that guard this memorable act: so that the blessings of our invaluable Constitution, thus protected and amplified, we may hope, will be extended to the remotest posterity. The great and momentous trusts and duties which have been committed to the REPRESENTATIVES of this Province, in a degree infinitely beyond whatever, till this period, have distinguished any other Colony, upon a just consideration of the energy and hazard, with which its inhabitants have so conspicuously supported and defended the British Constitution."

These declarations were echoed by the Council, in their answer to the Speech: and were received with equal satisfaction by the members of the Assembly. "Adopting as its type the Commons House of Parliament," the Assembly exercised the exclusive privilege of originating money Bills; and the Council, following the example of the House of Lords, acquiesced in the exercise of that privilege by the House, without undertaking to amend such Bills.

The Lieut. Governor closed the Session, with this emphatic recommendation. "I particularly recommend to you to explain, that this Province is singularly blest, not with a mutilated constitution, but with a Constitution which has stood the test of experience, and is the very image and transcript of that of Great Britain, by which she has long established and secured to her subjects as much freedom and happiness as is possible to be enjoyed, under the subordination necessary to a civilized Society."

The Representatives accordingly explained the Constitution, as the Lieutenant Governor recommended. In that sense, the people received it, and have hitherto understood and maintained it, and it is to be hoped, will continue to maintain it, in all its extent and purity.

The Commons of Great Britain cannot produce clearer or more authentic testimonials of their great privilege on the subject of money Bills, than the Commons of Upper Canada. There is not a clause in the constitutional charter, nor any other provision of law, nor any thing in the colonial state or local circumstances of the country, to vary this constitutional principle, or render it less applicable to this Province, than to the mother country. Every reason in favor of it exists here in its full force.

Sir William Blackstone, a fair expositor of the constitution and laws of England, in his Commentaries, says, "It is the ancient indisputable privilege and right of the House of Commons, that all grants of subsidies or parliamentary aids do begin in their house, and are first bestowed by them; although their grants are not effectual to all intents and purposes, until they have the assent of the other two branches of the Legislature. The general reason, given for this exclusive privilege of the House of Commons, is, that the supplies are raised upon the body of the people, and therefore it is proper that they alone should have the right of taxing themselves. This reason would be unanswerable, if the Commons taxed none but themselves; but it is notorious, that a very large share of property is in the possession of the House of Lords; that this property is equally taxable, and taxed, as the property of the Commons; and therefore the Commons not being the sole persons taxed, this cannot be the reason of their having the sole right of raising and modelling the supply. The true reason, arising from the spirit of our constitution, seems to be this. The Lords being a permanent body, created at pleasure by the King, are supposed more liable to be influenced by the Crown, and when once influenced, to continue so, than the Commons, who are a temporary elective body, freely nominated by the People. It would therefore be extremely dangerous to give the Lords any power of framing new taxes for the subject. It is sufficient that they have a power of rejecting, if they think the Commons too lavish or improvident in their grants. But so reasonably jealous are the Com-

mons of this valuable privilege, that herein they will not suffer the other House to exert any power but that of rejecting; they will not permit the least alteration or amendment to be made by the Lords to the mode of taxing the people by a money Bill."

The Legislative Councils of Upper Canada will not claim to be considered more respectable or worthy of confidence, than the Lords of the British Parliament; and I am not disposed to consider them less so. If, as Judge Blackstone asserts, it would be extremely dangerous to give the Lords any power of originating or modelling money Bills, because they are a permanent body, created at pleasure by the King, and therefore more liable to be influenced by the Crown; and when once influenced, to continue so, than the House of Commons, who are a temporary body, elected by the people; for the same reasons, operating upon the same principles of human nature here, it would be equally dangerous to give such a power over money bills to the Legislative Council. If the privilege is a valuable one in England, as Blackstone esteems it, and as the Commons have most strenuously contended, it is equally valuable in this Province. On this most interesting point, the Constitution is well settled and balanced. To disturb the balance thus established by "the practice of ages," and maintained in this Province for twenty five years, would be an unnecessary, an unreasonable, a dangerous innovation. The attempt of the Council to deprive the Commons of their "ancient indisputable privilege," at the hazard of stopping the wheels of government, exemplifies the influence which an aristocratic situation and independence of the people can produce upon the judgment of intelligent honorable men. But it affords peculiar satisfaction to perceive, that the members of the Assembly, although differing in opinion on other subjects, stood united and unanimous, in defence of the Constitution. Having firmly and perseveringly supported the chartered privilege of the people, they have a right to expect, that the people will, in their turn, support them, with equal firmness and perseverance, and, in all future elections, the electors should give their suffrages to none but known supporters of this essential principle of the Constitution.

A COMMONER.
KINGSTON:
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1818.
European Papers announce the death of the King of Sweden, Bernadotte, the hereditary Crown Prince, will, of course, succeed to the Swedish Throne, unless the doctrine of Legitimacy, adopted by the Allied powers of Europe, in the case of France, in relation to the claims of the Bourbon and Buonaparte dynasties, should be applied to Sweden, to the exclusion of Bernadotte, in favour of the son of the former King.

The death of Admiral Pickmore, Governor of Newfoundland, is mentioned in a St. Johns paper; and that the administration of that Island devolved upon Captain Bowker, the senior Naval officer upon that station.

Late papers from England state that an attempt had been made to assassinate the Duke of Wellington, in the streets of Paris. No discovery had been made of the desperado, who fired upon him.

At the late session of the Provincial Parliament of the Lower Province, Mr. Talchereau gave notice, that he would, early in the ensuing session, propose an enquiry into the manner in which an act respecting the Northwest Company's trade was executed, and what were its results; in order, as he declared, "to develop the system, in which the trade of the Northwest Country was carried on by certain Fur traders, to the detriment and ruin of the unfortunate people employed in their service."

The American Congress have passed a law for shutting the Ports of the United States against British vessels trading to or from those ports of the British dominions, which are shut against the vessels of the United States. The bill passed the Senate with only one or two dissenting votes, and the House of Representatives by a majority of 123 to 16, which serves to indicate that it is not a party measure but one generally popular, with both of their great political parties, throughout the United States. The West India Islands are the most immediate objects of the prohibition. The policy of these mutual restrictions upon the Colonial trade must be tested by experience. Their effects cannot fail of being injurious to the West Indies, whenever benefit may be derived from them to other places.

The dealers in lumber have the satisfaction to be informed, that the duty on British North American Lumber, which the Ministry gave notice that they intended to propose in Parliament, will not be proposed until the year 1820. For this change in the Ministerial policy, the persons interested are probably indebted to some spirited remonstrances from Lower Canada and the other Provinces, and their mercantile friends in England. A continued and more general manifestation of the same spirit may prevent the ministry from proposing in 1820, a measure so ruinous to the Lumber trade of these Provinces, one of the most essential means of remittance for the British manufactures consumed in this country. It has been thought that the Merchants and other inhabitants of Upper Canada, although deeply interested in the question, have not acted with so much decision and firmness on the subject, as their brethren in the Lower Province.

Unfortunate Occurrence.
On Saturday night, the 25th ult. as two men (one by the name of Comstock and the other Lamphire,) were attempting to cross the bridge over the Napane River, it being very dark, they mistook the way, and both were precipitated from the bridge into the river; Comstock swam ashore, and Lamphire was unfortunately drowned. He was to have been married the next day.—The deceased was a native of the United States.

Remarks.
In the preceding column our readers will observe that the provincial Parliament of Upper Canada, was prorogued on the 2d inst. but not without a pretty sharp reproof by his Honor the Administrator, aimed at the House of Assembly, for having maintained their independence. It appears that a difference of opinion existed between the Upper and Lower Houses on the question of a money Bill; a bill of this description had passed in the lower house, and was sent to the Upper house, which was returned with amendments. This the commons considered as a breach of their privileges they contended that the Upper House had the right to reject the Bill altogether, but not to mutilate it by amendments; they appealed to precedents in the British Parliament, and we believe no precedents can be found on the records in that quarter but will justify the Commons of Upper Canada for firmly taking their ground. The Commons would only be a cypher as a Legislative branch were it not for their having the control of the public money, and we should all have to deplore the day on which any such infringement should be made on this all important privilege; give the other branches a precedent of this kind to day, and to-morrow it would become an arbitrary law. After a man has suffered himself to be swindled of one part of his rights, he feels his degradation, and ceases to be the man of former consequence in his own eyes; he yields to the next demand, and so forth, until nothing is left him, but humbly to prostrate himself before the shrine of despotism. We speak of an individual as we would of a province or of a nation, without, however alluding to any particular country, but to the general nature of mankind. No branch of a Legislature should yield a particle of its privileges to another; if the Upper House surrender any of its rights to the Commons, the danger would be manifold; for the people would acquire too much power, where it would be as dangerous as in the hands of the Crown. Our parent country had awful, experience of this in the reign of the first Charles, which should serve, as a momentous lesson to King's and Legislators to the latest posterity and convince them that it only can be by an equitable balance of Legislative power that a nation can be happy and prosperous.—M. Herald.

The Indian War.—The following extract of a letter, dated at Fort Hawkins, the 18th of March, is copied from the Savannah Republican of the 3d instant.—
"The Upper Creeks have joined the army at Fort Scott with two thousand Warriors, all anxious to take the field against their turbulent neighbors, they are under the command of McIntosh and Lovett, two of their most distinguished chiefs.
"The army will consist of from four to five thousand men, and if the savages can be brought to action we shall have no more complaints from that quarter of our country."

The British brig Wellington, Symonett, arrived at Charleston in 26 days from Jamaica.
By the Wellington, Kingston papers are received to the 14th March. The Patriots had been completely subdued

to Mexico—the trade with Mexico was open and about to become brisk. A Patriotic privateer had captured a Guinea-man off St. Jago with 300 slaves on board.

London, Feb. 25.

A morning paper states, that the intended marriage of the duke of Clarence with the princess of Denmark, will not take place, and that his royal highness will be married to Miss Wyckham. This union, we understand, has the sanction of the prince regent, and was arranged before his royal highness was apprised of the death of his son, captain Henry Fitzclarence, to whom he was most tenderly attached, and by whose loss he is deeply affected.

A meeting of the Committee of the KINGSTON COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY, at the house of A. PRINGLE, Esq. on the 4th inst. the Visitor for the last month reported that the sum of £2831 Currency, had been expended, in relieving five persons, and paying two months tuition of two children. Kingston, 5th May, 1818.

Visitors for the next Month.
SAMUEL SHAW, Esq.
H. C. THOMSON, Esq.

Port of Kingston, ENTERED.
April 29—Sch. Kingston Packet, Reid, fr. S. Harbor, with cattle and fruit trees.
30th—Com. Perry, Pugh, fr. do. with hair, cheese and eggs.
May 1st—Triumph, Cook, fr. S. Harbor, with potatoes and leather.
2d—Traveler, Yates, fr. Oswego, with cattle—Dolphin, Touseville, fr. Bellville, with flour and beer—Bethah, Hawkins, fr. Backs Harbor, with potatoes and flour—Sch. Little Belt, Bely, fr. do. with boards.

MARRIED.
On Monday the 6th April, at Frederickburgh, by the Reverend R. Macdowall, Mr. Elijah Allen, to Miss Ruth Harlow, both of that place.

PRICE OF PROVISIONS
In the Kingston Market, during the past week.

ARTICLES.	per	FROM	TO
Beef	lb.	0 4	1 2
Mutton	lb.	0 7	0 8
Veal	lb.	0 7	0 8
Pork	cwt.	2 10 0	2 15 0
Powls	pair	0 2 6	0 3 0
Turkeys	each	0 5 0	0 7 6
Geese	do.	0 2 6	0 3 9
Cheese	lbs.	0 0 6	0 0 7 1/2
Butter	do.	0 1 6	0 1 9
Eggs	doz.	0 1 0	0 1 3
Peas	bush.	0 3 6	0 4 0
Potatoes	do.	0 1 3	0 1 6
Oats	do.	0 1 6	0 2 0
Turnips	do.	0 1 0	0 1 3
Carrots	do.	0 3 6	0 4 0
Cabbage	head	0 0 6	0 0 9
Flour	Cwt.	1 1 2	1 2 6
do.	do.	1 15 0	2 0 0
Tallow	lb.	0 0 7 1/2	0 0 8
Lard	do.	0 0 8	0 0 10
Hay	Ton	2 0	2 10
Straw	bundle	0 0 1 1/2	0 0 2
Wood	cord	12 6	15

Public Notice.

TO be sold at AUCTION, by the subscriber, on THURSDAY next at Mr. Ayckroyd's House, in the rear of the Government buildings occupied by the Major General Commanding, all the TABLES, CHAIRS, BENCHES, NEWS-PAPERS, &c. belonging to the subscribers to the Kingston Reading Room. Also a lease for six months of two rooms on the ground floor of the above House, of a convenient size, and well adapted for a single person.

Sale to commence at twelve o'clock.
ARCH. McDONELL, A & B.
Kingston, May 4.

BEER.
JUST received at the Store of S. Bartlet, a consignment of 94 barrels of Beer, of a superior quality, for sale for cash.
May 5, 1818.

Correction!
THE Annual Meeting of the LANCASTRIAN SCHOOL SOCIETY, will be held on MONDAY, 11th MAY, instead of Friday, 1st May, as formerly advertised.
By order of the President,
R. STANTON, Sec'y.

TAKE NOTICE.
THIS is to notify the public that Abraham West holds a note against me, which he obtained by fraud; I therefore caution all persons against purchasing said note, as I am determined never to pay it, unless compelled by the utmost extremity of the law. It is for one hundred dollars, and was given for a certain piece of land, for which he can give me no title, the heirs being in Scotland.
Daniel X Reynolds,
mark.
May 3, 1818.