HISTORY OF CANADA.

CHAP.

land. The House of Assembly was elective, like the House of Commons, and as there are no peers in the colonies as in the old country, the Legislative Council appointed by the crown bore the nearest resemblance that could be to the House of Lords. The Executive Council to advise the Governor stood in the place of the Privy Council, which advises the monarch of England. But there was this difference, that the Cabinet of the Privy Council was mostly chosen from the House of Commons, and could be changed, or was obliged to resign its executive functions, if it did not give advice in accordance with the views of the representatives of the people in the Commons. If the king at any time wished to retain a Cabinet in defiance of the Commons, the latter could compel the king and his advisers to yield, because all the money required for the Government of the country had to be voted each year by the Commons, and unless this annual vote was passed the government could not be carried on. Therefore the king's advisers would be obliged, in the end, to submit to the people's representatives. A similar power was not given to the colonies in the first place, because it was thought that in a scanty population, there was not a sufficient number of men qualified for such an important position.

4. Again, you have seen that the English Government levied the duties on the imports into Canada, owing to the fear of English merchants that the provinces might put on too high duties. The Assemblies could only tax themselves for money necessary for bridges, roads and such public works. They had no control over the money, or revenue, arising from the duties put upon goods coming into the country. The Governor and his council in each province kept possession of this, which gave them a power that made them independent of the Assembly, so long as