

Rebellions and Reform

The 1830's

Demographics

- The Canada – United States Border:
 - Anglo-American Convention, 1818
 - Established border at 49th parallel from Lake of the Woods to the Rockies
- Growth of British Canadian Nationalism
 - Loyalist Elite, Suspicion of Americans
- Population Boom
 - 1784 – 1815: 25,000 people immigrated to BNA from Britain and the USA
 - 1815 – 1850: 960,000 from Britain alone
 - England, Scotland, Ireland

Demographics

- African American Immigration
 - Britain's Slavery Abolition Act, 1834
 - Underground Railroad
- Growth of the middle class

Colonial Society in B.N.A

The Elite

- businesspeople, government officials, and religious leaders

Farm Families and Craftspeople

- Majority of population, no secure jobs, kept moving

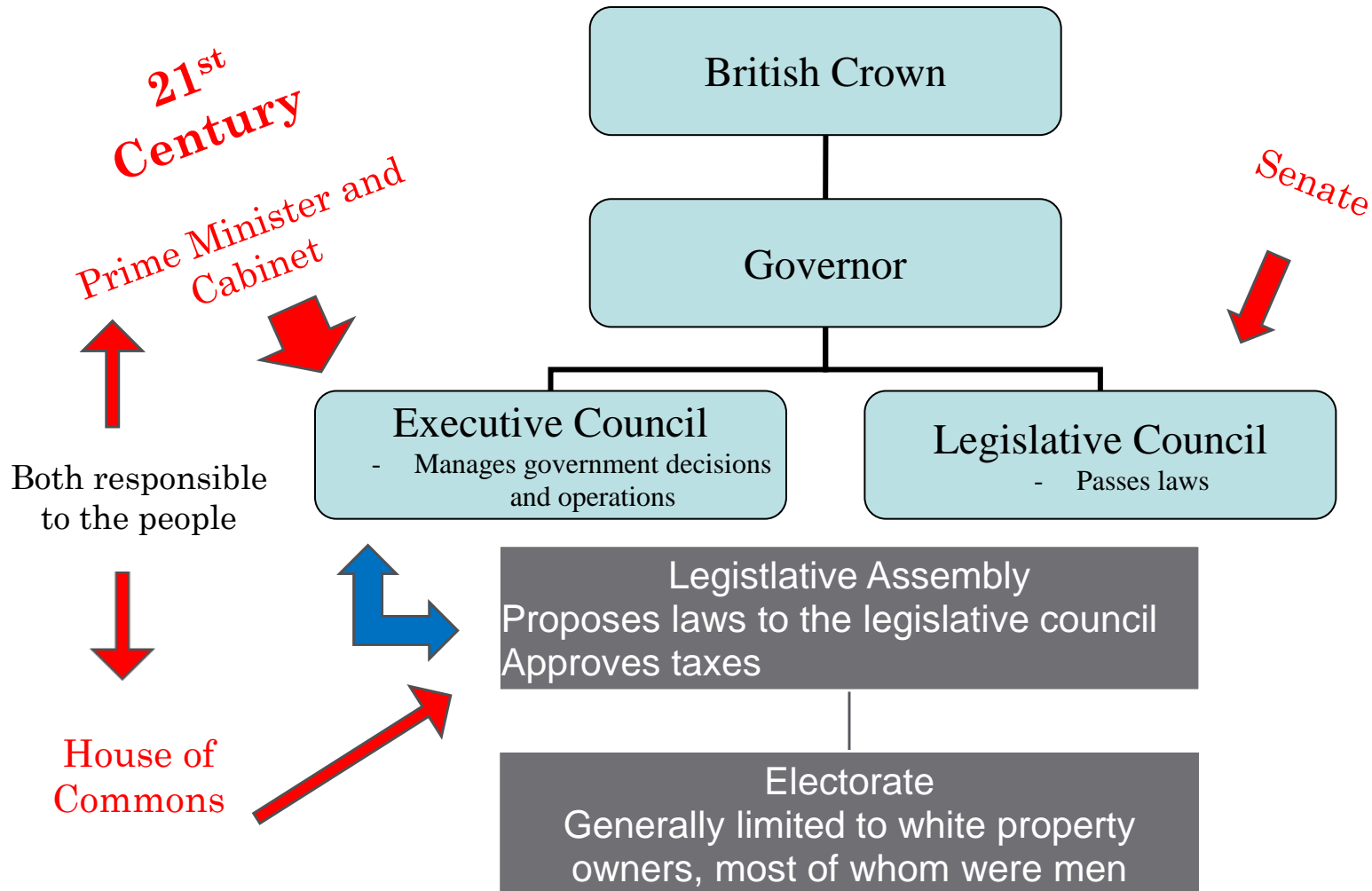
Unskilled Wage Earners

- Owned no land, only asset was labour Ex. Canal workers

Rule by Oligarchy

- Government by a few influential individuals
- Government from the top down

Government under the Constitutional Act, 1791



Family Compacts and Chateau Cliques

Family Compact in Upper Canada:

Groups of men, usually from the Anglican church, who were educated professionals and businesspeople, elected by themselves to govern the colony.



Similar groups were found in Lower Canada (Chateau Clique), Nova Scotia (Council of Twelve), and PEI (small group of British merchants living off the island)

Upper Canada

Name of Rebel Group:

- The Reformers

Name of Rebel Leader

- William Lyon Mackenzie

Two reasons for why the rebelled:

- Disliked “Tory” institutions (Family Compacts)
- Wanted more American-style democracy (Responsible Government)

Synopsis:

- March on York
- Shot on by militia
- Mackenzie flees to the USA before being pardoned

Lower Canada

Name of Rebel Group:

- Les Patriotes

Name of Rebel Leader

- Louis-Joseph Papineau

Two reasons for why the rebelled:

- Worried about British assimilation
- Wanted more American-style democracy (Responsible Government)
- Agricultural failure

Synopsis:

- Violence at St. Denis (victory), and St. Charles (defeat)
- Papineau flees to the USA before being pardoned

Durham Report

- *A Report on the Affairs of British North America (1839)*
 - Recommended the assimilation of the French Canadians into a British Culture
 - Major Points:
 1. combine Upper and Lower Canada
 - Would accelerate assimilation
 - *Act of Union 1841*
 2. Grant *Responsible Government*
 - Accepted 1848
 3. English only schools
 4. English only official language
 5. Build railways