

Independently of these serious vices, the said Tenures Act does not appear to have been founded on a sufficient knowledge of the Laws which govern persons and property in this Province, when it declares the Laws of Great Britain to be applicable to certain incidents to real property. It has only served to augment the confusion and doubt which had prevailed in the Courts of law and in private transactions, with regard to the Law which applied to lands previously granted in free and common soccage.

This House therefore humbly persists in praying that the said Tenures Act be unconditionally repealed.

We beg that we may now be permitted to return to the manner in which the Laws and Constitution have been administered; your Honourable House will there see an alarming list of grievances and abuses, (a part of which existed before the commencement of the present Administration which has maintained them, and is the author of a portion of them,) which have rapidly increased in violence and number. Many others exist which are too numerous to be enumerated here, and with regard to which we reserve to ourselves the right of complaining and demanding redress. We shall confine ourselves to representing to your Honourable House:—

That for a great number of years the Executive Government has, contrary to the rights of this House and to the Constitution of this country, set up claims to that control over, and power of appropriating a great part of the Revenue raised in this Province, which belong of right to this House; that the said claims have been vague and varying; that the documents relative to the said claims, and the accounts and estimates of expenses laid before this House have likewise been varying and irregular, and insufficient to enable this House to proceed with a full understanding of the subject on the matters to which they related. That important heads of the public Revenue of the Province, collected either under the provisions of the Law, or under arbitrary regulations, made by the Executive, have been omitted in the said accounts. That numerous items have been paid out of the Public Revenue, without the authority of this House, or any acknowledgement of its control over them, as salaries for sinecure offices, which are not recognized by this House, and even for other objects for which, after mature deliberation, it had not deemed it expedient to appropriate any portion of the public Revenue—and that no accounts of the sums so expended have been laid before this House.

That the Executive Government has endeavored, by means of the arbitrary regulations aforesaid, and particularly by the sale of the waste lands of the Crown, and of the timber on the same, to create for itself out of the revenue which this House only has the right of appropriating, pecuniary resources independent of the control of the Representatives of the people; and that the result has been a diminution of the wholesome influence which the people have constitutionally the right of exercising over the Administrative Branch of the Government, and over the spirit and tendency of its measures.

That this House having from time to time, with a view to proceed by Bill to restore regularity to the financial system of the Province, and to provide for the expenses of the administration of justice and of His Majesty's Civil Government therein, asked the Provincial Executive by address, for divers documents and accounts relating to financial matters, and to abuses connected with them, has met with repeated refusals, more especially during the present Session and the preceding one. That divers subordinate public functionaries summoned to appear before Committees of this House to give information on the said subject, have refused to do so, in pursuance of the said claim set up by the Provincial Administrations to withdraw a large portion of the public income and expenditure from the control and even from the knowledge of this House. That during the present Session one of the said subordinate functionaries of the Executive being called upon to produce the originals of sundry Registers of Warrants and Reports, which it was important to this House to cause to be examined, insisted on being present at the deliberations of the Committee appointed by the House for the purpose. And that the head of the Administration being informed of the fact, refrained from interfering, although, in conformity to Parliamentary usage, this House had pledged itself that the said Documents should be returned, and that although the Governor in Chief had himself promised communication of them.

That the result of the secret and unlawful distribution of a large portion of the public revenue of the Province has been, that the Executive Government has always, except with regard to appropriations for objects of a local nature, considered itself bound to account for the

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