

said John Caldwell, Esq., is disposed to give up, and even requests your Honourable House to accept, in payment of the balance now due from him to the province, the said seignior of Lauzon, which he is ready to make over provided a full discharge be given him of the whole debt due by him, both principal and interest. On which proposals your Committee, after a minute examination, and after having obtained sufficient exact information as to the yearly value of, and the improvements which are continually taking place in the said seignior, of which a plan and statistical account accompanies this Report, are of opinion that, for the sake of cutting short a great number of litigious difficulties, and of avoiding the enormous expenses which always attend a sheriff's sale, and the great sacrifice which such sale would cost the province, it would be expedient to listen favourably to the proposal made by the said John Caldwell, Esq.

In consequence of the opinion they have thus announced, your Committee request that leave be given them to bring in a Bill for the purposes aforesaid.

The whole, nevertheless, humbly submitted.

25 February 1836.

(signed) *L. T. Besserer*, Chairman.

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Correspondence  
respecting  
Sir J. Caldwell.

(No. 2.)

Bill to provide for the appointment of Commissioners to bid at the Sale of the Seignior of Lauzon, by the Sheriff, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

Most Gracious SOVEREIGN,

WHEREAS it would be advantageous for the province to acquire the property of the seignior of Lauzon when the same is sold by the sheriff, in case no bidding should be obtained to an amount approaching the real value of the said seignior; may it therefore, &c., and be it enacted, &c., that Louis Theodore Besserer, Hector Simon Huot, and William Henderson, Esquires, of the city of Quebec, shall be Commissioners for carrying this Act into effect, that is to say, to bid at the sale of the said seignior of Lauzon by the sheriff, if in their opinion and judgment the biddings then made and offered should not be for an amount nearly equal to the value of the said seignior, and in such case to become the purchasers of the said seignior of Lauzon, for and on behalf of the province at such sale; and the said Commissioners shall, after the adjudication, if the said seignior should be adjudged to them in their said quality, administer the affairs of the said seignior until the session of the provincial Parliament next after such adjudication; and shall likewise cause plans to be made of the different subdivisions which might be made for the purpose of effecting a sale of the said seignior in different portions, if it should be deemed necessary or advantageous to sell the same, and shall report to the House of Assembly of this province within the first 15 days of the session aforesaid.

2. And be it, &c., that it shall be lawful for the person administering the Government of this province to advance to the said Commissioners, by warrant under his hand, and out of any unappropriated monies in the hands of the receiver-general, a sum not exceeding 500*l.* currency to meet the necessary expenses occasioned by the purchase of the said seignior, and the making of the said plans, and also the necessary expenses of causing such work to be done and such precautions to be adopted as may be requisite to prevent the accidents which might otherwise arise from the spring floods to the several works and constructions in the said seignior; and the said Commissioners are hereby authorized to cause such work as aforesaid to be performed, and for that purpose to enter into and upon the said seignior, and the works and constructions aforesaid.

3. And be it, &c., That if the said seignior should be purchased by the said Commissioners, the sheriff of the district of Quebec shall not be entitled to any commission or poundage on the price for which the same shall be sold.

4. And be it, &c., That every person to whom shall be entrusted the expenditure of any portion of the monies hereby appropriated, shall make up detailed accounts of such expenditure, showing the sum advanced to the accountant, the sum actually expended, the balance (if any) remaining in his hands, and the amount of the monies hereby appropriated to the purpose for which such advance shall have been made, remaining unexpended in the hands of the receiver-general, and that every such account shall be supported by vouchers, therein distinctly referred to by numbers corresponding to the numbering of the items in such account, and shall be made up to and closed on the 10th day of April and 10th day of October in each year, during which, such expenditure shall be made, and shall be attested before a justice of the Court of King's Bench, or a justice of the peace, and shall be transmitted to the officer whose duty it shall be to receive such account within 15 days next after the expiration of the said periods respectively.

5. And be it further enacted, &c., That due application of the monies appropriated by this Act shall be accounted for to His Majesty, his heirs and successors, through the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury for the time being, in such manner and form as His Majesty, his heirs and successors, shall direct, and that a detailed account of the expenditure of all such monies shall be laid before the several branches of the provincial legislature within the first 15 days of the next session thereof.