

members of the *Mr. Fox* declared it impossible to express an entire approbation or disapprobation of a bill which the House had a right of not yet seen; but he did not hesitate to say, that if a local legislature was liberally formed, that circumstances would induce him much to overlook defects in the other regulations, because he was convinced that the only means of retaining distant colonies with advantage, was to enable them to govern themselves.

MR. HABEUS CORPUS ORDERED, that leave be given to bring in a bill to repeal certain provisions of the act of the 14th of his Majesty, respecting the government of Canada; and to make other provisions, &c.

that there were

Friday, 8th April.

was called by The order of the day for taking the report of the Quebec provision bill into further consideration having been read,

an allotment *Mr. Hussey* begged leave to inform the House that he had a petition to present, from a number of very respectable persons, against the bill in question. They had conceived that it was likely to prove prejudicial to their trade.

lands for this The petition was brought up and received. It contained the prayer of several merchants, warehousemen, and manufacturers of Quebec, that the bill might not pass into a law, inasmuch as after having duly weighed the consequences of it, they feared that it would be attended with great injury, particularly to their trade and commerce.

ts, the tenures The petition was ordered to lie on the table. *The Speaker* then put the question, "That this report be now taken into further consideration."

ided that the *Mr. Hussey* moved, "That the bill be recommitted."

such as were *Mr. Fox* remarked, that the bill contained a variety of clauses of the utmost importance, not only with respect to the country to which they immediately related, but to Great Britain. Many of these clauses appeared to be very exceptionable, and such as he could by no means subscribe to. The bill proposed to give two Assemblies to the two provinces, and thus far it met with his approbation; but the number of persons to whom these Assemblies were to consist deserved particular attention. Although