

The Order of the day for the House in Committee to take into consideration certain Resolutions whereon to found an Address to Her Majesty relative to the encouragement held out by Her Majesty's Government for Imperial aid in the construction of the Main Trunk Line of Railway through *Canada*, being read ;

The Honorable Mr. *Merritt* moved, seconded by Mr. *Frazer*, and the Question being proposed, That it be an Instruction to the Committee to take into consideration the following Resolutions :—

1. That the Despatch of Lord *Grey* to the Earl of *Elgin*, dated 1st April, 1847, states, that Her Majesty's servants will not be slow to propose, nor judging from the opinions generally expressed, would Parliament be slow to sanction, the employment of the pecuniary resources of *Great Britain* in furtherance of the construction of Railways and Canals for the purpose of promoting immigration and colonization in *British North America*.

2. That on the 24th July following, during the same Session, the Railway Committee recommended an immediate application for the Imperial credit thus proffered to be extended, to all Railways alike within this Province.

3. That in a Despatch from Lord *Grey* to Lord *Elgin*, dated 14th March, 1851, there is communicated a copy of a letter from Mr. Under-Secretary *Hawes* to *Joseph Howe*, Esquire, dated 10th March, 1851, wherein it is stated "that Her Majesty's Government were prepared to recommend to Parliament to give the guarantee of the Imperial credit to a Loan for the construction of the proposed line of Railway from *Halifax* to *Quebec* or *Montreal* ; or to advance the funds required out of the *British Treasury* upon certain stipulated conditions."

4. That on the 30th August of the same year, the Legislature passed "An Act to make provision for the construction of a Main Trunk Line of Railway throughout the whole length of this Province," providing the funds necessary for the purpose shall be raised by Loan, under the authority and guarantee of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, or advanced as a Loan to this Province under the said authority.

5. That on the 20th February, 1852, a Minute of Council authorized the Inspector General to proceed to *England* to confer with Her Majesty's Government on the subject, and procuring their assent to change the line of Railway surveyed by Major *Robinson* to the Valley of the *St. John's*, and to use his best endeavours to obtain the Imperial aid to the Main Trunk Line as far west as possible, and consistent with the Act of Parliament relating to the said Grand Trunk Line of *Canada*.

6. That the Despatch of the Right Honorable Sir *John Packington* to the Earl of *Elgin*, dated 20th May, 1852, expresses, that while Her Majesty's Government are anxious to act with the most perfect good faith towards the Legislature and people of the *British American* Provinces, and to fulfil every just expectation which may have been held out by their predecessors, still it is evident that no pledge has been given of assistance to any other Provincial line of Railway than that from *Halifax* to *Quebec* or *Montreal*, through *British* territory, and they regret it is not in their power to recommend to Parliament to guarantee the interest on the sum required to construct the Road by the Valley of the River *St. John*, the only one to which the Provinces, by their Representatives, are prepared to aid the Government in their desire to construct. But desiring as they do, to promote to the utmost of their power the interests of those important portions of the Empire, the Government will be willing to give the most favorable attention to any modification of the proposals now before them, which the Legislature may, on further consideration, feel inclined to make.

7. That the Legislature of this Province, reposing every confidence that Her Majesty's Government will fulfil the just expectations held out to Her faithful *Canadian* subjects, beg leave to represent that from the encouragement set forth in the Despatches referred to, and the expectation of receiving Imperial aid, the