

"the inhabitants of any or all of the Districts or localities respectively where the said Court Houses and Gaols are to be erected, so that in no case shall any portion of the cost of such Court Houses and Gaols, or the land on which they are to be built, be paid from the Consolidated Revenue of this Province" after the words "payment thereof" in the 5th Resolution; and leaving out the words "Governor in Council shall appoint" at the end of the said 5th Resolution, and adding the words "Municipal Council, or other District or Local Body which may be duly constituted for that purpose shall appoint" instead thereof;

And the Question being put on the Amendment; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:—

YEAS.

Messieurs *Boulton* of TORONTO, *Christie*, *Fergusson*, *Flint*, *Galt*, *Johnson*, *Macdonald* of KINGSTON, *Robinson*, *Seymour*, *Sherwood* of TORONTO, and *Thompson*.—(11.)

NAYS.

Messieurs Attorney General *Baldwin*, Solicitor General *Blake*, *Cameron* of KENT, *Cartier*, *Chauveau*, *Davignon*, *DeWitt*, *Fortier*, *Holmes*, Attorney General *LaFontaine*, *Lemieux*, *Notman*, *Papineau*, *Price*, *Richards*, and *Watts*.—(16.)

So it passed in the Negative.

Then the main Question being put;

*Ordered*, That the said Resolutions be now read a second time.

The said Resolutions, being read a second time, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the Honorable Mr. Attorney General *LaFontaine* have leave to bring in a Bill to make provision for the erection or repair of Court Houses and Gaols at certain places in Lower Canada.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time, to-morrow.

Mr. *Christie* moved, seconded by Mr. *Smith*, of *Frontenac*, and the Question being proposed, That considering the amount of the Public Debt and Interest thereof, exceeding One hundred and fifty thousand pounds per annum, and the other fixed and permanent charges to which the Province is pledged, together with the state of its Revenue and Resources, it is, in the opinion of this House, expedient to suspend all Public Works, those of indispensable necessity excepted, until such times as the circumstances of the country will admit of their being resumed with a prospect of their completion, without a recurrence to further loans for the purpose:

2. That it is expedient also to reduce the expenses of the Legislature, of the Civil List, and the ordinary annual charges of the Civil Government of the Province, as far as may be consistent with the due efficiency of the Public Service:

3. That in conformity with the above, it is expedient to reduce all salaries exceeding Five hundred pounds currency, by at least one half the excess over that amount:

4. That it is expedient to fund all Fees of Office, and to allow fixed Salaries in lieu thereof, to the incumbents:

5. That the salary paid from the Consolidated Revenue Fund of this Province to Her Majesty's Governor General thereof, is excessive, disproportionate to the means of the Province, and burthensome to it, and that, in the opinion of this House, the Salary to Her Majesty's Representative in this Province ought to be defrayed from the Imperial Treasury:

6. That the Attornies and Solicitors General, as the principal Law Officers of the Crown in this Province, are in matters of law, and legal questions of public interest, the responsible Advisers of the Executive Government thereof, and as such are referred to frequently by it, as well in cases where private rights are concerned, as in those of a public nature: That, in the opinion of this House, they therefore ought not to take the lead, conduct, nor participate in the political business of the Government, nor *ex officio* to occupy seats in the Executive Council, nor to deliberate therein as Members thereof; but to be exempt therefrom, and restricted to the official duties appertaining to their station in Her Majesty's Courts of Law, which are now, by reason of the attention of those Officials to the political business of the Government, performed by substitutes, and at great additional expense to the country, and that they should be professionally consulted only in legal matters by the Executive, when for its information and guidance it may be necessary to refer to them for their opinion and report thereupon, and which, in the opinion of this House, should be as free of all suspicion of political bias, as are and ought to be the decisions of the Judges in Her Majesty's Law Courts:

7. That, in like manner, the Commissioners of Public Works, whose functions are immediately connected with and subordinate to the Executive Council, and who being directly accountable to it for all contracts they may enter into, and public monies expended by them pursuant thereto, ought also, in the opinion of this House, to be relieved from serving in the said Council, and from deliberating therein as Members thereof, their position as Members of the said Executive Council being incongruous, if not incompatible, with their just and necessary responsibilities towards it:

8. That Her Majesty's Executive Council in this Province, besides uniting in itself functions that in England are divided between Her Majesty's Privy Council and the Ministerial Cabinet, constituted as it is, solely of salaried Officials—Heads of Departments, is subject to the suspicion of mercenary, as well as of undue party influences, in the conduct of public affairs, and is in fact a Bureaucracy of political parti-

Court Houses and Gaols (L. C.) Bill.

Court of Chancery (U. C.) Bill.

Superior Criminal Court and Court of Error and Appeal (U. C.) Bill.

Supply.

The Order of the day for the House in Committee on the Bill for the more effectual Administration of Justice in the Court of Chancery of the late Province of Upper Canada, and another reference, being read;

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. *Galt* took the Chair of the Committee; and after some time spent therein,

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair;

And Mr. *Galt* reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made amendments thereunto.

*Ordered*, That the Report be received to-morrow.

The Order of the day for the House in Committee on the Bill to make further provision for the Administration of Justice, by the establishment of a Superior Criminal Court of Common Law, and also a Court of Error and Appeal in Upper Canada, and for other purposes, and another reference, being read;

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. *Armstrong* took the Chair of the Committee; and after some time spent therein,

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair;

And Mr. *Armstrong* reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made amendments thereunto.

*Ordered*, That the Report be received to-morrow.

The Order of the day for the House in Committee of Supply, being read;