

inconvenience or loss of time; that at *Quebec*, on the other hand, the exporter is compelled to rely on the regular traders to the port, so that when an unusual accumulation of produce takes place, vessels cannot be procured, and freights immediately rise to most exorbitant rates; that no means exist of engaging British Shipping to meet the sudden demands which the nature of the trade causes, as such shipping is seldom to be met with at American ports, unless under specific orders, or the engagements of a Charter; that the early closing of the navigation of the *St. Lawrence* renders it difficult, if not impossible, to obtain shipping from *England* to supply the sudden demands which, from the nature of the trade, are constantly arising, and which could readily be supplied at the American Seaports, whence vessels would at any time come round to the *St. Lawrence* if assured of remunerative freights; that the uncertainty which at all times prevails as to the route by which the products of the West will be transported to the Sea Board, must operate to prevent British Vessels coming to the *St. Lawrence* in sufficient numbers to ensure moderate freights during the shipping season, while the scarcity of shipping and the immediate rise of freights to *England*, whenever a large supply of products is sent by the *St. Lawrence*, has the effect of diverting those products through the *Erie Canal* to *New York*: That the Navigation Laws have likewise had a most injurious influence on the import trade of the Province; that it has not unfrequently happened that Canadian importers of sugars, being unable to procure British Vessels on any terms at *Havannah* and other foreign ports, have been compelled to import their cargoes in American bottoms to *New York*, and thence through the American Canals to *Canada*, when, but for the restrictions imposed by the Navigation Laws, they would have imported them by the *St. Lawrence* in foreign bottoms, which could have been readily procured: That this House has observed, with much satisfaction, that a Bill was introduced into the House of Commons during the last Session of the Imperial Parliament for the repeal of the Navigation Laws, and this House being of opinion that the provisions of that Bill are calculated to remove those restrictions from which the trade of this Province is now suffering, most humbly pray that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to recommend the subject of the repeal of the Navigation Laws to the favorable consideration of the Imperial Parliament. And this House would further humbly pray, that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to authorize the Governor of this Province to permit Foreign Vessels to navigate the *St. Lawrence* above *Quebec*, under such restrictions as His Excellency may in his wisdom see fit to impose.

The said Resolution being read a second time;

The Honorable Mr. *Cayley* moved in amendment thereunto, seconded by Mr. *Sherwood*, of *Brockville*, That the words, "of protection to Colonial products and" be inserted after the first word "subject:" That the words, "delay in removing the present restrictions on the employment of Foreign Shipping would, in the opinion of this House, be highly injurious to the Carrying Trade of the *St. Lawrence*;" that in order to secure this Trade, the Province, relying on the continuance of the protection which was then enjoyed by Colonial products in the markets of *Great Britain*, incurred a large debt for the construction of a line of Ship Canals, by means of which the cost of Inland Transport has been very materially reduced,"

be left out, and the words, "this Province, relying on the continuance of the protection enjoyed up to a very recent period by Colonial products in the English market, and assisted by a loan raised on the Credit of *Great Britain*, has constructed a chain of Ship Canals to connect its inland waters, and extend the Carrying Trade of the *St. Lawrence*;" that the withdrawal of that protection, more especially while the *St. Lawrence* continues closed to foreign vessels, must render these Works comparatively useless, and impose a heavy unproductive debt on the limited resources of the Province," inserted instead thereof: and, That the word "but" after the first words "*New York*," be left out, and the word "and" inserted instead thereof.

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

## YEAS.

Messieurs *Badgley, Cayley, Christie, Dickson, Gugg, Macdonald* of KINGSTON, *Malloch, M'Lean, Prince, Robinson, Seymour, Sherwood* of BROCKVILLE, *Smith* of FRONTENAC, and *Stevenson*.—(14.)

## NAYS.

Messieurs Attorney General *Baldwin, Beaubien, Bell, Solicitor General Blake, Boulton* of NORFOLK, *Boutillier, Burritt, Cameron* of KENT, *Cartier, Cauchon, Chauveau, Davignon, DeWitt, Duchesnay, Dumas, Egan, Flint, Fortier, Fournier, Fourquin, Guillet, Hall, Hincks, Holmes, Jobin, Johnson*, Attorney General *LaFontaine, LaTerrière, Laurin, Lemieux, Macdonald* of GLENGARY, *M'Connell, M'Farland, Merritt, Méthot, Morrison, Notman, Papineau, Polette, Price, Richards, Sauvageau, Scott* of BYTOWN, *Scott* of TWO MOUNTAINS, *Smith* of DURHAM, *Taché, Thompson, Viger, and Wetenhall*.—(49.)

So it passed in the Negative.

Then the said Resolution was agreed to.

Resolved, That a Select Committee, composed of the Honorable Mr. *Hincks*, the Honorable Mr. Attorney General *Baldwin*, and Mr. *Holmes*, be appointed to prepare and report the draught of an Address to Her Majesty, in conformity to the said Resolution.

The Honorable Mr. *Hincks* reported from the Select Committee appointed to draw up an humble Address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Navigation Laws, that they had drawn up an Address accordingly; and the same was read, as followeth:—

Address to Her Majesty reported.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of *Canada*, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty for the purpose of assuring Your Majesty of the devoted loyalty of the people of this Province, and of their sincere attachment to Your Majesty's Person and Government; and we beg to represent to Your Majesty that we feel it to be a duty incumbent upon us to take the earliest opportunity to assure Your Majesty that the sentiments of the people of this Province on the subject of the repeal of the British Navigation Laws which were expressed to Your Majesty in a joint Address from the two Houses of the Provincial Parliament in the month of July, 1847, remain unchanged; that delay in removing the present restrictions on the employment of Foreign Shipping would, in our opinion, be highly injurious to the Carrying Trade of the *St. Lawrence*; that in order to secure this Trade, the Province, relying on the continuance of the protection which was then enjoyed by Colonial products in the markets of *Great Britain*, incurred a large debt for the construction of a line of Ship Canals, by means of which the cost of Inland Transport has been very