

Enclosure in No. 5.

CANADA.

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EXTRACT from a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the Honourable the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL on Matters of State, dated October 18, 1849, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the same day.

THE Committee of the Executive Council have had under consideration upon your Excellency's reference, the Resolution of the Honourable the Legislative Council, and also the Address of the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of last Session, on the subject of the place at which the future Sessions of the Provincial Parliament should be holden, together with your Excellency's answer to the latter; and the Committee most respectfully beg leave to report, that after the best consideration that they have been able to give the matter, they see no sufficient grounds arising out of anything that has transpired since the prorogation of Parliament, to lead them to a different conclusion upon this question from that arrived at by the popular branch of the Legislature in their Address. The Committee therefore respectfully advise your Excellency that the recommendation of the House of Assembly, that Parliament be in future convened alternately at Toronto and Quebec during periods not exceeding four years at each place, be adopted and acted upon.

As it would be manifestly most inconvenient to have the public archives and the departments of the State at a different place from that at which the Parliament is to sit, the Committee conceive that the adoption of the views of the House of Assembly in this particular, leads of necessity to the removal of those archives and departments to the place at which Parliament is to be assembled. They therefore conceive it to be expedient that the place where it may be your Excellency's pleasure to summon Parliament for the next session should be decided upon, and the necessary steps taken for the removal of the public departments thither with as little delay as possible. And they are respectfully of opinion that, under all circumstances, it will be most expedient that such removal should in the first instance be to the city of Toronto, for the period of the constitutional duration of the present Parliament, and that the quadrennial periods of alternation be commenced with the removal to Quebec, at the expiration of that time.

The Committee would also recommend that, in order to prevent any misapprehension as to the full intention of the Government and Parliament to carry out strictly the principle of an alternate periodical residence in each section of the Province, estimates be prepared and submitted to Parliament at the next session, for making such alterations and additions in and to the public buildings, both at Toronto and Quebec, as may be necessary for the accommodation of the Representative of the Sovereign, the departments of State, and both houses of Parliament in each of those cities.

The Committee are also of opinion, that the Honourable the Commissioners of Public Works be charged with the removal of the public archives and property to Toronto, and with the making the necessary temporary arrangements there for the reception and accommodation of your Excellency, the public departments, and both houses of the Provincial Parliament, and that accountable warrants, to an amount not exceeding in the whole the sum of 3,000*l.*, be from time to time issued to them, to cover the necessary expense of such removal and arrangements.

With respect to the expense of removing the public officers, their families and effects, the Committee would advise that the course followed on the removal from Kingston, in 1844, be adopted on the present occasion, that the payment of such expense out of the public funds should be favourably recommended by your Excellency to Parliament at the next session, and that in the meantime these different parties be informed that transport will be provided for them by the Commissioners of Public Works, with whom they must communicate on the subject; and that, should the Legislature not approve of its being done at the public expense, the respective amounts paid on their account will be deducted from their salaries falling due on the 1st of July next.

The Committee also respectfully recommend, that the substance of this Minute be communicated by Mr. Secretary Leslie to the heads of the different public departments, for the information of themselves, their officers, and clerks.

(Certified)

J. JOSEPH, C. E. C.

(No. 114.)

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Hon. the Earl of
ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Toronto, November 19, 1849.

(Received December 19, 1849.)

(Answered January 9, 1850, No. 449, page 23.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, in order that it may be laid at the foot of the Throne, an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, from the warden and councillors of the Municipal Council of the Gore District.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.