

own purposes, at a moment when the officers of Government were labouring under the most serious embarrassments, and some of them almost in a state of destitution for want of the salaries to which they are justly entitled in remuneration of their services, appeared to me to be an act which would have justly exposed me to the reproach of having sacrificed their interests to an unmerited compliance with the wishes of the House of Assembly.

But this is not all. The House of Assembly had during the last Session received upon their Addresses nearly the whole amount of the estimate of their contingent expenses for the year ending in October 1833, which estimate, it is to be observed, is included in the general estimate of the expenses of the civil government, and the administration of justice for that year still remaining to be provided for by legislative enactments; and it appears, moreover, by an official statement of the contingent expenses of the Assembly, published towards the close of last year, that the House had contracted engagements or incurred expenses to nearly the amount of the advance (7,000*l.*) above referred to, which statement included salaries and allowances not recognized by legal enactments, and which therefore could not have been admitted in any issue made to the House; so that even supposing I could have felt justified in waiving the objections stated in my answer to their address, and the other objections arising out of my regard for the interests of the public officers as above stated, I must have fallen at once into another difficulty, caused by the items of illegal salaries and appointments, included in the statement of the expenses of the House, unless (which my experience of the House of Assembly could hardly justify me in anticipating) they could have been induced to forego the right they have assumed to create offices, and to assign salaries and appointments upon their own single authority.

Such were the circumstances under which I felt bound to withhold my warrant for the issue of 7,000*l.* on the application of the House of Assembly. Their own Committee, in their Report (of which a copy is herewith transmitted), have clearly pointed out the course by which the House might at least have attempted the removal of my objections to a compliance with their wishes; but instead of adopting that course, the House have preferred adding this to the mass of complaints contained in their 92 Resolutions, which I shall have occasion to notice presently.

In obedience to the Order for the call of the House, the names of the Members were called over on the 15th ultimo; three only were found absent, and those who answered to their names amounted to 83. Little business was done for some days, during which a long set of Resolutions were in preparation, which were on the 18th ultimo, to the number of 92, laid upon the table of the House. On the 19th the House in Committee proceeded to the consideration of the Resolutions, when it was moved by Mr. Neilson, to substitute others in place of them: his motion was lost, however, by a large majority. The whole of the 92 Resolutions have been since passed in a Committee of the whole House, concurred in by the House, without amendment, and referred to a Committee, with instructions to draft an Address upon them, to the three branches of the Imperial Parliament.

The division upon the question of concurrence in the House, was 56 for, and 24 against the Resolutions.

It is a circumstance deserving notice, that Messrs. Neilson and Cuvillier, two of the three Members (the third, the Honourable D. B. Viger, now a Legislative Councillor, is absent from the province) deputed to England in 1828, to support the petitions addressed to the Imperial Parliament by the people of this province, voted with the minority.

I have now the honour of transmitting a copy of these 92 Resolutions; but before I proceed to offer any observations upon them, I cannot avoid pointing out to your notice the extraordinary change which has taken place in the sentiments and views of the House of Assembly of Lower Canada within the last few years, as more particularly appears by their Resolutions upon the despatch of Viscount Goderich, of the 7th of July 1831, a copy of which Resolutions, dated 24th November 1831, is herewith transmitted, commencing with the following words: "Resolved, That this House views with sentiments of gratitude the gracious expressions of His Majesty's paternal regard for the welfare and happiness of His subjects in this province, and the proofs of a just and liberal policy towards them, contained in the despatch of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, dated the 7th July last," &c.

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