

2d Session, 9th Parliament, 5th Geo : IV.*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

I feel much regret whenever the House of Assembly makes a request to me with which it is my duty not to comply. During the administrations of myself and my predecessors, there have been various communications with his Majesty's Government on the subject of your address—they have resulted in the final decision of his Majesty's Government to admit those citizens of the United States who are now in this Province, to all the civil rights of subjects.

The communication which contains this decision is the instruction by which, as one branch of the Legislature, I must govern my conduct in relation to the measure to which it refers, and it has already been unreservedly given to the House of Assembly.

Mr. Burnham, seconded by Mr. McDonald, moves for leave to bring up the petition of Thomas Alexander Stuart and others.

Which was granted and the petition brought up.

Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Bidwell, moves for leave to bring up the petition of George Seaman and others of Fredericksburgh.

Which was granted and the petition brought up.

Mr. Lefferty, seconded by Mr. Scollick, moves for leave to bring up the petition of sundry inhabitants of the District of Niagara, relative to the more easy arrest of absconding debtors. —

Which was granted and the petition brought up.

Agreeably to notice, Mr. Rolph seconded by Mr. Mc Call, moves for leave to bring in a bill to attach property of absconding debtors.

Which was granted and the bill read.

Mr. Rolph, seconded by Mr. McCall, moves that the bill for the attachment of property of absconding debtors be read a second time on Tuesday next.

Which was ordered.

Agreeably to notice, Mr. Attorney General seconded by Mr. Cameron, moves for leave to bring in a bill to afford relief in cases of imprisonment for small debts.

Which was granted and the bill read.

Mr. Attorney General, seconded by Mr. Thompson, moves that the bill for relief from imprisonment for small debts be read a second time on Monday next.

Which was ordered.

Mr. Attorney General, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of William Phair and others Inhabitants of the town of York, reported that the committee had agreed to report, by bill, a draft of which he was ready to submit to the House whenever it would be pleased to receive the same.

The report was ordered to be received and the bill was read the first time.

Mr. Attorney General, seconded by Mr. Thompson, moved that the York Fire Company bill be read a second time on Monday next.

Which was ordered.

Agreeably to the order of the day the religious sects relief bill was read the second time.

Mr. Playter, seconded by Mr. Rolph, moves that the House do now resolve itself into a committee of the whole on the bill for the relief of Quakers, Menonists, Tunkers and Moravians.

Which was carried, and Mr. Thomson was called to the chair.

The House resumed.

Mr. Thomson, reported the bill without amendment.

The report was ordered to be received.

Mr. Playter, seconded by Mr. McDonald, moves that the bill for the relief of certain religious sects be engrossed and read the third time on Monday next.

Which was ordered.

Agreeably to the order of the day the Prince Edward division bill was read the second time.

Mr. Fothergill, seconded by Mr. Burnham, moves that this House do now resolve itself into a committee of the whole on the Prince Edward division bill.

Which was carried and Mr. Walsh was called to the chair.

The House resumed.

Mr. Walsh reported progress and obtained leave to sit again to-morrow.

Agreeably to the order of the day the House went into committee on the adultery bill.

Mr. McDonell in the chair.

The House resumed.

Mr. McDonell reported progress and asked leave to sit again this day three months.

On the question for receiving the report the House divided and the Yeas and Nays being taken were as follows:—

YEAS—Messrs. Attorney General, Beasley, Burnham, Cameron, Fothergill, Hamilton, Hornor, Ingersol, C. Jones, J. Jones, Matthews, McCall, McDonell, Perry, Randall, Scollick and Walker—17.

NAYS—Messrs. Baby, Beardsley, Bidwell, Burke, Clark, Gordon, Lefferty, McDonald, Playter, Rolph, Thomson, Walsh, White and Wilkinson—14.

The question was decided in the affirmative by a majority of three and leave granted accordingly.

Mr. Thomson gives notice that he will to-morrow, move for the appointment of a select committee to ascertain what laws are about to expire and to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Rolph, seconded by Mr. Bidwell, moves that that part of the order of the day for striking off the names of Rolph and Beardsley from the committee upon the subject of the Welland Canal and petitions relating to it, or dissolving the same, be discharged from the order of the day.

Which was carried.

Mr. Speaker reported having received a letter from the Clerk of Assembly, with certain enclosures, and read the same as follows:—

SIR,

Clerk of Assembly's Office, 26th November, 1825.

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter addressed to me from Major Hillier, private Secretary to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, accompanying the warrants for the payment of the contingent accounts of the last session. And at the same time a note from Messrs. McGillivray and Galt, two of the commissioners for valuing the Crown and Clergy Reserves, with a map of the Province, which I have caused to be mounted, and hung in the Assembly Chamber.

I have the honour to be your very obedient and devoted servant,

GRANT POWELL, Clerk of Assembly.

To the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Assembly.

Government House 9th June, 1825.

SIR,

I have received the commands of the Lieutenant Governor to transmit to you warrants for the discharge of the contingent expenses of the House of Assembly in its late session.