

Address to His Excellency the Administrator in answer to Speech.

necessity of a well digested and uniform system to give a fitting direction to their most zealous efforts. We accept with gratitude Your Excellency's assurance, that while Our Most Gracious Sovereign will ever rely on the free and loyal attachment of the Canadian people for the defence of this Province, and the continuance of British connexion, Her Majesty will be prepared, as Her Predecessors have always been, to provide with promptitude and energy, corresponding with the power and resources of the Empire, for the security of Her North American Dominions.

The Civil List, which was brought under our consideration by Your Excellency's Predecessor, will not fail to engage our attention, with the view of making such a provision as will enable Her Majesty to give effect to our wishes by recommending to the Imperial Parliament the requisite changes in the Act of Reunion.

We will immediately take into consideration the Financial Accounts of the past, as well as the Estimates for the current year.

The expediency of providing for the prosecution and completion of the Public Improvements, undertaken with the sanction of Parliament, will occupy our deliberate attention.

It affords us pleasure to know that the Revenue of the past year, has not fallen short of the expectations which were entertained of its amount; and we assure Your Excellency of our willingness to make such provision for the Public Service, as the interests of the people may require.

We deeply deplore the unexampled calamity to which the ancient City of Quebec has been subjected, and assure Your Excellency of our readiness to concur in such indispensable measures as Your Excellency's Predecessor adopted on the exigency.

We gratefully acknowledge the sympathy and benevolence of the different portions of the British Empire, called forth by the infliction with which it pleased Divine Providence to visit the citizens of Quebec; and most fully appreciate the noble generosity which has been exhibited, and which truly proves that the inhabitants of this Province are regarded by the people of Great Britain as their brethren and fellow subjects; and we shall be happy to consider any other measure which it may be proper to adopt for the restoration of that which has been destroyed.

We are sensible of the importance of the intelligence which has been received, respecting the intended change in the commercial policy of Great Britain, and rejoice to hear that Your Excellency has already pressed on Her Majesty's Government a consideration of the effect which the contemplated change might have on the interests of Canada, and sincerely hope that, when the projected scheme shall be fully developed, it will be found that the claims of this Country, to a just measure of protection, have not been overlooked.

We thankfully receive the offer of Your Excellency's co-operation in all measures for securing the prosperity of this Province, and earnestly trust that, under the direction of an all-wise Providence, a course will be pursued calculated to promote the best interests, and to foster the rising growth, of this rapidly advancing Colony.

Ordered, That the said Address be engrossed.

Resolved, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency, the Administrator of the Government, by the whole House.

Ordered, That such Members of this House, as are of the Honourable the Executive Council of this Province, do wait upon His Excellency, the Administrator of the Government, to know His Excellency's pleasure, when He will be attended by this House with its Address.

The Honourable Mr. Attorney General Draper, one of the Members of the Executive Council, rose in his place and acquainted Mr. Speaker and the House, that His Excellency, the Administrator of the Government, will receive the House, with its Address, to-morrow, at three o'clock, P. M., at the Government House.

Then, on motion of Mr. Macdonell of Dundas, seconded by the Honourable Mr. DeBleury, The House adjourned.

Martis, 24° die Martii.

ANNO NONO, VICTORIÆ REGINÆ, 1846.

At the hour appointed, Mr. Speaker and the House attended upon His Excellency, the Administrator of the Government, with the Address of the House, And being returned.

House attend His Excellency the Administrator with the Address in answer to Speech.

According to order, Etienne Paschal Taché, Esquire, Member for the County of L'Islet; Francois Desauter, Esquire, Member for the County of St. Maurice; and Jean Chabot, Esquire, Member for the City of Quebec, who were absent on the twenty-first instant, from the Select Committees, appointed to try the merits of the Petition of William Notman, Esquire, of Dundas, in the Gore District, complaining of the undue Election and Return of Edward Ermatinger, Esquire, to represent the County of Middlesex, in this present Parliament; and of the Petition of James Durand, Esquire, complaining of the undue Election and Return of James Webster, Esquire, the Sitting Member for the West Riding of the County of Halton; severally attended in their places in this House.

Members attend in their places, according to order.

Mr. Taché rose in his place, and having given satisfactory reasons for not being present at the meeting of the Select Committee, for the trial of the Middlesex contested Election, on the twenty-first instant, and having verified the same upon oath,

Mr. Taché.

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Petrie,

Resolved, That Mr. Taché having given satisfactory reasons for not being present at the meeting of the Select Committee, for the trial of the Middlesex contested Election, on the twenty-first instant, and having verified the same upon oath, be now excused for such non-attendance.

Excused.

Mr. Desauter rose in his place, and having given satisfactory reasons for not being present at the meeting of the Select Committee for the trial of the Middlesex contested Election on the twenty-first instant, and having verified the same upon oath,

Mr. Desauter.

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Petrie,

Resolved, That Mr. Desauter having given satisfactory reasons for not being present at the meeting of the Select Committee, for the trial of the Middlesex contested Election, on the twenty-first instant, and having verified the same upon oath, be now excused for such non-attendance.

Excused.

Mr. Chabot rose in his place, and having given satisfactory reasons for not being present at the meeting of the Select Committee, for the trial of the contested Election for the West Riding of the County of Halton, on the twenty-first instant, and having verified the same upon oath,

Mr. Chabot.

On motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Petrie,

Resolved, That Mr. Chabot having given satisfactory reasons for not being present at the meeting

Excused.