

dian Public in a very advantageous position, which will be improved when the principle of a Sinking Fund is brought into active operation.

The amendment of the existing Immigration Act, with a view to the removal of such provisions as tend to prevent Immigrants who propose to settle in Canada, or the Western States of the Union, from proceeding to their destination by the route of the *St. Lawrence*. The Passenger Trade is an important branch of the trade inwards, which cannot be discouraged without prejudice to the trade outwards. I shall not fail to make every exertion which the interests of the public health will permit, to reduce the expenditure of the Immigration Department to the scale of the years preceding 1847, when a passenger tax, considerably less onerous than that now levied, with the occasional addition of a small grant from the Public Treasury, sufficed to cover it.

I would further recommend for your consideration the expediency of setting apart a portion of the Public Domain, in order that the Revenue derived from the sales thereof may form a Fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of Common Schools. It may probably be deemed advisable to authorize the Government to invest the Capital arising from this source, either in the Stocks of the Province or in those of some of the principal Railways, the construction of which has been sanctioned by Parliament.

In maturing these and all kindred measures which have the promotion of the moral and economical well-being of the people of this important Province for their object, you will find me ever willing and desirous to co-operate with you. In the possession of a Revenue derived from so many independent sources, and exempt from numerous charges that weigh heavily on the resources of other communities, Canada enjoys great and singular advantages. May we hope that, under God's blessing, our Legislation may be so directed as to enable her to reap the full benefit of them.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Baldwin, seconded by Mr. Solicitor General Drummond,

Speech to be considered.

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General, to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature, be taken into consideration on Monday next.

Petitions brought up.

The following Petitions were severally brought up and laid on the table:—

By Mr. Notman,—The Petition of *Adam J. Ferguson*, Esquire, and others, Electors of the County of *Waterloo*.

By Mr. Macdonald, of *Glengary*,—The Petition of *William K. Mackenzie*, of *L'Orignal*, in the County of *Prescott*, Esquire.

By the Honorable Mr. Cameron, of *Kent*,—The Petition of *T. M. Daly*, and others, of *North Easthope* and other Townships, in the County of *Huron*, and of the Government Lands north of the eastern section of the District of *Huron*; the Petition of *James Dougall* and others, of *Amherstburg* and its vicinity, in the Western District; the Petition of *John Iretton* and others, of the Township of *Verulam*; the Petition of *Thomas Horner* and others, of the Township of *Anderdon*, in the Western District; the Petition of *William Ketchum* and others, of the Township of *Bosanquet*; the Petition of *John Sloan* and others, of the Township of *Anderdon*, Western District; and the Petition of *Thomas Boyle* and others, Members of the Total Abstinence Society of *Malden*.

By Mr. Davignon,—The Petition of Messieurs *J. G. Mackenzie* and Company, and others, of *Montreal*.

By Mr. Jobin,—The Petition of *J. C. Bachand* and others, of the District of *Montreal*, Notarial Students; and the Petition of the Reverend Messire *St. Germain*, Curé of the Parish of *St. Laurent*, County of *Montreal*.

By Mr. Solicitor General Drummond,—The Petition of the Reverend *David Gibbs* and others, of *Granby* and vicinity; and the Petition of *J. Bte. Cadieux de Courville*, of the Township of *Orford*.

By Mr. Notman,—The Petition of *John Burwell*, of *Port Burwell*, Esquire.

On motion of Mr. Smith, of *Frontenac*, seconded by Mr. Scott, of *Two Mountains*,

Postage on Letters to and from Members.

Ordered, That the Clerk be directed to charge to the Contingencies of the House, the Postage on all Letters not exceeding one ounce in weight, and on printed papers, to and from Members of this House, during the present Session; provided that when Petitions to this House are enclosed, the postage thereon shall be charged without restriction as to weight.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Baldwin, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Attorney General LaFontaine,  
The House adjourned.

Veneris, 19° Januarii;

ANNO 12° VICTORIÆ REGINÆ, 1849.

MR. Speaker communicated to the House, a Report of Librarian. Report received from the Librarian, of the present state of the Library of the House, pursuant to a Standing Order of the 19th June, 1841; which Report is as followeth:—

The Librarian of the Honorable the Legislative Assembly begs leave respectfully to report,—

That owing to the brief duration of the last Session of Parliament, no Library Committee was appointed, and consequently no provision was made by Your Honorable House for the increase of the Library.

That, nevertheless, during the past Recess, it has been considerably augmented, principally by the receipt from Messrs. *Armour* and *Ramsay*, of the large order entrusted to them by the Committee in 1847; but which, as was noted in the last Annual Report, was unfortunately lost on its way to this country, by the total wreck of the vessel in which it was shipped. On learning this unfortunate circumstance, no time was lost by the Agents in renewing their order; and in the course of the past summer the books were received.

About the same time also, the French order, of the same date, entrusted to Messrs. *Fabre* and Company, was duly executed; the delay, in this instance, having arisen from its not having been possible to place the order in their hands in sufficient time to ensure its speedier fulfilment.

It is satisfactory to state, that both the English and French Agents have discharged their respective commissions with care and attention.

The description of binding formerly obtained for the French books having elicited much complaint, as being of an inferior description, a much better kind has been substituted, at a trifling additional expense, which it is hoped will meet with general approbation.

Upon the close of the last Session, without provision being made for the purchase of books in the ensuing Recess, beyond those already ordered, the