

plain in 45 deg. N. latitude, and by a line drawn in that parallel West to the river St. Lawrence, and down that river to Lake Ontario, and across that lake to the river Niagara, and from Niagara across Lake Erie to the North-west point of the boundary of Pennsylvania and down the west boundary of that province, by a line drawn from thence till it strike the Ohio. After some debate this passed. The limits of Quebec were next carried along the Ohio to the Mississippi. Governor Johnstone spoke against the annexing the Illinois to Canada. There was another debate on annexing the coast of Labrador to Quebec. The objection was begun by Sir Charles Saunders, who deduced from it the loss of the fishery to the Americans. Lord North gave an account of the sea-cow and seal fishery on the Labrador coast, and shewed, that from the sedentary nature of it, it could not be conducted upon the same principles as the Newfoundland fishery. Upon this clause the House divided: 83 for it, and 49 against it.

June 7. The House in Committee on the Quebec Bill. The second enacting clause of the Bill being read which revokes all laws and ordinances made for the settlement of the province since 1764, and ordains, that they shall cease and determine on the 1st. of May 1775, Mr. Burke moved, that that part of the clause should be left out. He was seconded by Governor Johnstone. A debate now ensued, but the Committee divided, Ayes 91 Noes 51. Proceeded to the third enacting clause relative to the establishment of the Roman Catholick religion and the provision to be made for the clergy of that persuasion; carried without a division. A motion was then made to adjourn, it being past eleven o'clock, but the friends of the Bill insisting to go on, a debate arose and the Committee divided; for proceeding 75, against it 31. Several of

the most strenuous opposers of the Bill now quitted the House, and the Committee proceeded, with very little interruption, through the two next clauses, the 4th and 5th. The House rose at one o'clock in the morning.

June 8. The Committee was wholly occupied in debate on the manner in which the Bill had been conducted in which Mr. Townsend and Mr. Burke and Col. Barré attacked Lord North with all the force of their abilities and wit.

June 10. Sir Charles Whitworth, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill, with the amendments which had been made.

Mr. Mackworth moved, "That a clause should be added, allowing of a trial by jury, at the option of either or both of the parties." He recommended the clause as a security for the English in Quebec against the French laws.

Lord North opposed it. He recapitulated part of the evidence that had been produced at the Bar, and said Governor Carleton had informed the House, that the Canadians had a dislike to the English laws in general; that it was his opinion, that giving the Canadians their old system of laws would be the only means of making them a happy people; that M. Hey, the Chief Justice, had said it was his opinion, that the Canadians at first, might have been brought to like the English laws, but since they had been so indulged, they expected now nothing less than a repeal of the whole of the laws by which they are governed at present; and that the Noblesse of the country thought trial by jury was humiliating and degrading to them as it subjected their property to the decision of barbers and taylors; that Mr. Maseres had, to be sure, said, that juries, he believed, would be liked under proper regulations, but the people of Canada did not choose