

Ordered, That the subject matter of the eighth Resolution, relative to Internal Communication, be referred to the Committee appointed on the first instant, to report upon the state of the Roads throughout the Province, and the sums required for the improvement thereof.

The Honorable Mr. Speaker laid before the House—

The following Returns from several of the Banking Institutions of the Province, and Incorporated Companies, viz:—

Bank of New Brunswick, made up to the 1st January, 1844:

Central Bank, for the periods ending 5th June and 4th December, 1843:

Charlotte County Bank, made up to the 1st Monday in May, 1843:

Saint Stephen's Bank, for the periods ending July, 1843, and January 1844:

New Brunswick Marine Assurance Company, to June, 1843, and semi-annual Return to 4th January, 1844; together with a list of the Stockholders in the Company.

[*See these Returns in Appendix.*]

Mr. Rankin, by leave, presented a Petition from Charles Hensley, on behalf of the Prince Edward Island Steam Navigation Company, praying that a grant may pass as compensation to that Company for having maintained a good and efficient Line of Steam Communication between Miramichi, Charlotte Town and Pictou, for a period of three months, in the year 1842; which he read.

Ordered, That the said Petition be received and referred to the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Rankin, also by leave, presented a Petition from Charles Hensley, on behalf of the Prince Edward Island Steam Navigation Company, praying like compensation for having maintained a good and efficient Line of Steam Communication between Miramichi, Charlotte Town and Pictou, during the season of 1843; which he read.

Ordered, That this Petition be likewise received and referred to the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Brown moved for leave to bring in a Bill to abolish Imprisonment for Debt in certain cases for sums not exceeding five pounds.

Leave granted.

It being the time appointed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to receive the House with their Address, in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, the House waited upon His Excellency and presented the same, which is as followeth:—

To His Excellency Sir WILLIAM MACBEAN GEORGE COLEBROOKE, K. H., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.

The Humble Address of the House of Assembly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the Representatives of Her Majesty's Loyal and Faithful Subjects, the People of New Brunswick, beg leave to offer our thanks for Your Excellency's Speech at the opening of the present Session.

Although this Meeting of the General Assembly is attributable to the Constitutional right of a free people, rather than the pressure of any particular emergency, we fully concur with Your Excellency, that interests of vital importance to this Colony are involved in our deliberations, in the due maintaining and advancement of which, we feel it our especial duty to co-operate with the other Branches of the Legislature.

The recent addition to the Family of our beloved Queen—a source of increased happiness to Her Majesty—is also most gratifying to Her Loyal Subjects.

As an highly favoured Dependency of Great Britain, New Brunswick rejoices in that state of external tranquillity and repose which now so happily prevails; and we cannot doubt that the people of this Province will at all times participate in the advantages resulting from the Commercial enterprize of the Parent State.

The pressure, to which all classes of the community have been so long subjected, is now, we rejoice to say, materially alleviated; and while we recognize, with humility and thankfulness, that Divine Hand by which the labours of the Husbandman