

subjects in this province, are the consumers, while this and similar duties accrue principally in Montreal, and we do not receive any portion of them.

The evil result of this policy, in dividing the country above Montreal, and thereby excluding our province from all control over the sea-port, though entitled to a portion of the duties levied thereat, instead of giving to each province a separate port of entry, under the exclusive control of its Legislature, may be seen by contrasting the effects produced in the State of New York and the State of Pennsylvania, contrasted with the state of the provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada. The two former States have never, up to the present moment, had any assistance from foreign revenue, the whole amount having been applied to the purposes of their general government: notwithstanding, by the wealth created from foreign commerce, which centres in all commercial cities or sea-ports, and having the control of those sea-ports under one legislature, they have been enabled to borrow money to any extent, have made many thousand miles of canal connecting their inland waters, and added many millions to the value of the interior of their country: during which period, although we have the most easy, most direct, the shortest and best route to the ocean, only having a distance of 28 miles in length, with 160 feet lockage, to unite those waters, thereby virtually making a sea coast of lakes Ontario and Erie, St. Clair, Huron and Michigan, up to the present moment the Legislature of Lower Canada has not made an attempt to improve this communication; and although the entire commerce of this immense country is being gradually transferred to the atlantic cities of New York and Pennsylvania, they cannot feel or see the necessity of immediate action: and your Majesty's faithful Commons despair of ever having a free access to the ocean until the boundary line is altered so as to give the Legislature of this province the entire control of a sea-port which of right they should long since have possessed.

Commons House of Assembly, }
17th day of January 1837. }

Arch^d. M'Lean, Speaker.

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(Mr. Patrick Stewart.)

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