

CONSTITUTIONAL MEETING.

Pursuant to public notice, a Meeting of Subscribers to the Petition to the King, and the several branches of the Imperial and Provincial Legislatures, for the redress of grievances, was held at the house of Dr. Burnside, King-street, York, on Friday the 15th August, 1820, for the purpose of forwarding the objects of the Petitions, and making arrangements for their transmission to the respective high authorities to whom they are addressed.

W. W. Baldwin, Esq. M. P. was unanimously called to the Chair, and Mr. Henry S. Sullivan appointed Secretary.

The Chairman having explained the object of the Meeting on motion of Dr. Morrison, seconded by Robert Baldwin, Esquire, it was 1st Resolved,

That a committee be appointed for the purpose of watching over the interests of the petitioners, and of forwarding by such means as shall seem best calculated for that purpose, the great objects which they have in view, that is to say, the preservation of our constitution unimpaired, the firm and uncompromising assertion of our unquestionable right to the privileges of British subjects, and to the full enjoyment thereof in principle, in form, and in practice, and the constitutional redress of our grievances.

2d Resolved—(moved by Dr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Doell.)—That the said committee do consist of William Warren Baldwin, Esquire, M. P. Robert Baldwin, Esquire, Jesse Ketchum, Esquire, M. P., Dr. Burnside, Mr. Cawthra, and Dr. Morrison, and that any three members shall form a quorum for the despatch of business.

3rd. Resolved—(moved by Dr. Morrison, seconded by Jesse Ketchum, Esquire.)—That the said committee have full power to add to their number if necessary.

4th Resolved—(moved by Dr. Burnside, seconded by Robert Baldwin, Esquire.)—That the committee do transmit the petition addressed to our Most Gracious Sovereign, to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, to be laid at the foot of the Throne.

5th Resolved—(moved by Dr. Burnside, seconded by Robert Baldwin, Esquire.)—That from the manner in which the Rt. Hon. Viscount Goderich, then his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, received the petitions of the people of this Province on the Alien Bill, and recommended them to the favourable consideration of our beloved Sovereign, he has rendered himself deservedly dear to the people of this part of the British Dominions, and has taught them to regard him as one to whom in the time of trouble and political danger they might confidently look up as a firm asserter of their rights, and a generous protector of their just interests.

6th Resolved—(moved by Dr. Burnside, seconded by Robert Baldwin, Esquire.)—That the committee do therefore transmit the petition addressed to the House of Lords, to the Right Honorable Viscount Goderich, with a request that he would present it to that august House, and support its prayer with his talents & influence.

7th Resolved—(moved by Dr. Burnside, seconded by Mr. Johnson.)—That from the liberal sentiments expressed and the just views of colonial policy taken by the Honorable Edward Stanley, Esquire, in his speeches in the Imperial House of Commons, we are led to entertain an earnest hope that he will be amongst the most vigilant, and firm as he has been amongst the most able supporters of our rights and privileges.

8th Resolved—(moved by Dr. Burnside, seconded by Mr. Johnson.)—That the committee do therefore transmit the petition addressed to the Imperial House of Commons to the Honorable Edward Stanley, Esquire, with a request that he would present it to that House, and support its prayer, with his talents and influence.

9th Resolved—(moved by Mr. Ketchum, seconded by Mr. Wilson.)—That alive to every grateful feeling for those warm expressions of interest, for the rights of British subjects in distant colonies which so frequently and happily pervade the British Senate; we necessarily place great reliance for the support of our petition on the judgment, the prudence, and the talents of Sir James MacIntosh and Joseph Hume, Esquire, whose vigorous wisdom and eloquence have given life as it were to those expressions so claiming our gratitude.

10th Resolved—(moved by Mr. Ketchum, seconded by Mr. Wilson.)—That the committee do therefore enclose to each of those gentlemen a copy of the petition with a request for his support.

11th Resolved—(moved by Dr. Morrison, seconded by Robert Baldwin, Esquire.)—That at a time when we are about laying our complaints before the Imperial Parliament; and are soliciting the aid of the talents and influence of members of that august body in procuring us redress, the recollection of those obligations which we and the empire at large owe to the late Right Honorable Charles James Fox, for his noble exertions in defence of Colonial rights, at a time when those rights were generally so imperfectly understood, leads us to turn with confidence to the present head of his illustrious house, inheriting, as he does, the liberal and enlightened principles of that great and lamented statesman, as one to whom we in common with all others suffering from misrule and mal-administration throughout the British Empire, have a peculiar right to look up for assistance and support.

12th Resolved—(moved by Dr. Morrison, seconded by Robert Baldwin Esquire.)—That the committee do therefore transmit a copy of the petition to Lord Holland, with a request for his support.

13th Resolved—(moved by Robert Baldwin, Esquire, seconded by Dr. Morrison.)—That from the generally enlightened views and liberal policy, of the Rt. Honorable William Huskisson, we feel disposed to attribute his mistaken opinions as to the feelings, wishes, and constitutional rights of the people of this and our sister Province to misinformation rather than to a desire to trench upon our rights or liberties, and this we too more readily believe from his statement in the Imperial House of Commons, as