

St. George Arthur's Reply to the Hamilton Resolutions.

To George S. Tillson and the Gentlemen composing the Committee appointed by the General Meeting, held at Hamilton, on the 24th July, 1852.

All I have to say is, that I have read the Resolutions, and I have to say, that I have no objection to their being referred to the House of Commons.

I have requested to dissolve the present Provincial Assembly, for the purpose of referring to the consideration of the House of Commons, the expediency of establishing a system of public instruction, which would be to make certain Public Institutions in the Province, also answerable for the exercise of the Royal Prerogative, in the administration of Public Affairs.

Although it was competent for Her Majesty's High Commissioner, to refer my recommendation to Her Majesty, which seemed to me justly and properly to result from his investigations in this Province, and although it belongs to Her Majesty and the Imperial Parliament, to make any alterations in the Constitution of this portion of the Empire, which may appear wise and prudent, I do not conceive that the Governor of this Province is empowered to submit, for the consideration of the Electors, a question of such a nature, which contains the fundamental principles of the Constitution, under the authority of which the powers of Government and Legislation are exercised in the Colony.

I have given to the system called "Responsible Government," the most deliberate consideration, and I readily avail myself of this opportunity to lay before the community, with frankness and candour, some of the reasons, which induce me to recommend, that I should not, in any manner, be deemed to have taken any step, which would be to interfere with the prerogative of the Crown, or to encroach upon the powers of the Legislature.

Although, by means of the powers of Legislation, which are granted to the Governor, the people have an immediate share in the management of their own public and local concerns, and although they elect, without control, the public branch of the Legislature, yet, I deem it most essential, that the influence of this part of our Constitution, should not be extended to such a length, as would enable it to supersede the legitimate action of the Royal Prerogative, which is vested in the Mother Country, and which is so essential to the maintenance of the British Constitution.

I think it appears, that under the proposed system there would be, in existence, any Constitutional powers, which would be to encroach upon the powers of the Mother Country, and which are so essential to the maintenance of the British Constitution.

The necessity for the people of Upper Canada, preserving the sympathies and good will of the inhabitants of the neighbouring Colonies, has been powerfully recommended by the Report, which forms the subject of consideration at the Public Meeting at Hamilton. I am of opinion, that the restrictions on trade which work injuriously here, may be removed, without real prejudice to the interests they were intended to protect, and that emigration, in a better state of things, may be effectually promoted; and I am prepared to assist in investigating and improving the public departments of the Government, and to make the real and deep responsibility of all its officers fully apparent.

I am likewise deeply sensible of the necessity of developing the resources of the Province, by means of public improvements, and I have endeavoured to counteract the causes, which, for a time, have paralyzed the energies of the enterprising individual, and I have endeavoured to counteract the causes, which, for a time, have paralyzed the energies of the enterprising individual.

I cannot permit an allegation, that any persons are known to exercise an undue influence in this Government, and I am prepared to assist in investigating and improving the public departments of the Government, and to make the real and deep responsibility of all its officers fully apparent.

I am, Sir, as I have already said, to have the pleasure of being acquainted with you, and I have endeavoured to counteract the causes, which, for a time, have paralyzed the energies of the enterprising individual.

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ITEMS.

Advocate of the Army.—Lord John Russell, moving that the House should go into a committee of supply for voting the sum necessary for the increase of the army, entered into a statement in justification of the proposal.

Mr. Hume has attempted to make good a charge against Sir John Colborne, for transporting some of the Canadian rebels, Mr. LaRoche made to triumph a defence of the gallant officer's conduct, that Sir Robert Peel suggested the propriety, at a distant period, of a vote of thanks to his Excellency, for the manner in which he had discharged the duties of Civil and Military Governor of Canada.

The annual revenue of India from the monopoly of opium, is valued at £1,200,000, of which £800,000 at least, is derived from the export of that article to China; and the stoppage of the trade will occasion very serious financial difficulty to several eminent commercial houses.

Lord William Bentinck has scarcely left his equal among the Liberal Aristocracy.—In his quiet and unobtrusive situations at home and abroad, he "kept the whiteness of his soul."

With opportunities of amassing wealth such as few have enjoyed, and the offer of that advancement in the ranks of the Peerage which his "order" so eagerly coveted, he preferred to remain a man of the people, with a moderate fortune. There has been and are many more noisy professors of attachment to popular interests, but few have acted up to their principles as steadfastly as the late member for Glasgow.

He left out no false expectations; and if his constituents were somewhat disappointed in the Parliamentary career, they will not fail to bear in mind, not only the moderation of his professions, but the unfortunate state of health which kept him back on many occasions, when inclination might have prompted him to take an active part in the business of the House of Commons.

There had been a severe thunder storm in Ayrshire, and much farm stock destroyed.

REHEARSAL OF THE EGLINTON TOURNAMENT.—On Saturday, 20th July, there was a grand rehearsal, with tents and barriers, and the adjutants of the lists.

The noble steamer packet ship Great Western, Captain Hosken, arrived at New York yesterday, from Bristol, having sailed from that port on the afternoon of the 24th ult., bringing advices from London of the 23rd of August, twenty-four days later than by previous arrivals.

The British Queen was expected to sail from Portsmouth on the 2d or 3d of September. She had already engaged 170 first class passengers.

The Great Western, which left New York on the 1st August, in company with the British Queen, arrived at Bristol early on the morning of the 14th, making the passage in 121 days; and the British Queen, which left Portsmouth at A. M. on the morning of the 15th. The difference in time of starting and arriving was 27 hours.

There does not appear to be any news of great importance by this arrival. No material change of importance has taken place in the money market. Money still continued tight, notwithstanding all the efforts which had been made to relieve it, and a great demand for money continued to prevail.

The prospect of the harvest in England was favorable. In the southern parts of the country, the crops had already been gathered—but wet weather had kept back the crops in the northern counties. It is believed, however, that the crops will be generally good.

The prices of wheat were continually fluctuating, according to the prevalence of sunshine or cloudy weather. The wheat crops in France, and in other parts of the continent were generally good.

There has been some fluctuations in the cotton market—but on the whole, it had been made to improve. At Liverpool large sales had been made both in the trade and for export, at improving rates, and should the weather continue favorable for the harvest, prices will probably improve to the extent of 1d. per lb.

The Christs appear to be losing ground.—Many of their leaders have been tried and sentenced to imprisonment. The Rev. Mr. Stephens, the great agitator, has been sentenced to 18 months imprisonment. The men who were sentenced to death, for being engaged in the riot at Birmingham, have been reprieved, and will be transported for life.

Speculations were afloat in London as to the change in the Ministry. One is, that Lord Normanby is to be removed from the Colonial Office, and to be succeeded by Lord John Russell. Another, that Mr. Stirling Rice, made a Peer, will have the Colonial, and that room will be made elsewhere for Mr. Macaulay, who would assuredly add strength to the administration.

Mr. P. T. Baring, one of the under Secretaries of State, and the elder brother of the late Mr. Baring, is to be new Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The House of Lords on the 23d, Lord Palmerston gave the strongest assurance that the arrangement entered into by the Five Powers for the settlement of the Eastern question will at all events, have the important effect of preserving the peace of Europe.

The London Standard says that the Government is to be asked to give a concession to the merchants of the East, in relation to the duties on the importation of opium.

The Act for making temporary provision for the government of Lower Canada received the royal assent on the 17th August.

Mr. O'CONNELL has given notice, that early next session he would move a resolution that it is the opinion of the House that Her Majesty's Ministers ought not to advise Her Majesty to recognize the independence of the state calling itself the Texas, unless with the consent of Mexico, it formed a part, and unless the abolition of slavery, and the making the slave trade piracy, were necessary provisions in its constitution.

The venerable Archbishop Strachan has been consecrated Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Upper Canada.

MARRIAGE OF THE QUEEN.—The Morning Post says positively on this subject, and says that it is fully settled that Albert Francis, son of the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg, is to be the happy man. The Post infers, that as Her Majesty has not to be present at the forthcoming coronation of the two houses of Parliament, that this important fact would be announced from the throne by the Lords Commissioners.

CORN EXCHANGE.—London, Aug. 23.—The favorable weather of the last few days has thrown a general dullness on the trade, and very little business passing in wheat to-day; and there was necessary to force sales.

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