

It was immediately taken up and rushed through all its stages at one sitting, disturbed only by a message from the Governor notifying the Assembly that he would prorogue the Legislature on the following day. The bill having passed the Assembly was immediately sent to the Council, which dealt with it even more expeditiously, for it had passed that House the next morning and was ready for the Governor's sanction when he arrived to close the session.

Though Sir Francis Bond Head had been notified of his recall and was simply holding the position of Governor till his successor should arrive, yet it is interesting to note how at the instance of the Bank of Upper Canada he had deserted the position which he so stubbornly held during the crisis, and now when the crisis was past, allowed the bank to suspend under greatly relaxed terms. The Act was to remain in force till the close of the following session of the Legislature.

The bank had accomplished its purpose and could now issue notes to the extent of £400,000 without the expense of importing specie from Britain or selling exchange until a handsome profit could be realized. At the same time the irredeemable notes of the Bank of Upper Canada continued to be received in all Government transactions as equivalent to specie.

Now it is quite obvious, when we regard the state of the money market, that the Bank of Upper Canada had no occasion whatever, other than its own temporary interest, for suspending when it did. It had command of an unusual quantity of specie of its own, specie was cheap in America, the United States banks were rapidly resuming, and even the banks in Lower Canada, where the political disturbance was really serious, were preparing to resume.

The very narrow adherence to immediate self-interest which characterized the bank both in maintaining the specie basis while withholding accommodation in the period of crisis, and afterwards in suspending and extending its note issue when the crisis was over, and all this with the aid of Government machinery, did not escape the attention either of the commercial and banking interests in the Canadas or of the financial advisers of the Colonial Office. When the new suspension Act reached Downing Street it caused considerable surprise, but as it was under-