

according to its value was an expensive mode of proceeding and one likely to lead to litigation. Moreover, that by the enforcement of this principle the towns would be practically exempt; that the tax on imported articles was more easily levied and more just. To this it was replied that the imported articles were only in a trifling degree consumed in the country parishes, and the expenditure fell entirely upon the towns.

The consequence of this diversity of view, which gave rise to much bad feeling, led to efforts on the part of the opponents of the bill to induce the home ministry to advise the king to disallow the act. The knowledge of this determination caused a motion to be made in the house for a committee to draft a petition to the king to assent to the act, and to prepare a memorial explanatory of the causes which led to the course resorted to being preferred. It was met by an amendment that the house should recommend the act be not allowed. In a thin house of nineteen, the motion was carried by thirteen to six.

A curious incident took place when the address was placed in the hands of the lieutenant-governor. By an oversight, no previous official notice, as is customary, had been given to the lieutenant-governor; so in receiving it he replied that, not having until that moment had communication with the address and memorial, he could only say that they might depend on their submission to his majesty, "unless on a deliberate perusal thereof, any part should appear to be exceptionable, in which case I shall acquaint you therewith by message on Monday next."

This speech gave rise to some irritation in the house, and a motion was made to take it in consideration. A debate ensued, but it was terminated owing to a want of quorum. The act was allowed.

In November, 1806, *Le Canadien* appeared, written entirely in French. It has been claimed that the publication of this journal constituted an era in the history of journalism. In one sense it may be so considered, for it