

intituled, "An Act to provide for the formation of Incorporated Joint Stock Companies for Manufacturing, Mining, Mechanical or Chemical purposes," reported from the said Committee that they had gone through the said Bill and had directed him to report the same to the House without any amendment.

To be committed tomorrow

Ordered, that the said Bill, together with the Report thereon, be committed to a Committee of the whole House.

Ordered, that the House be put into a Committee on the same to-morrow.

Return to the Address to His Excellency for a Copy of the Commissioner's Report on the Registry Office of Montreal presented.

The Honorable Mr. Secretary *Leslie*, by command of His Excellency the Governor General, presented to the House a Copy of the Report of the Commissioner appointed to enquire into the state of the Registry Office of Montreal, agreeably to the Address of this House of Monday last.

Ordered, that the same do lie on the Table, and it is as follows:—

R E T U R N

To an ADDRESS from the Honorable the Legislative Council to His Excellency the Governor General, of the 29th instant, praying that His Excellency would be pleased to lay before the House a Copy of the Report made by the Commissioner appointed to inquire into the state of the Registry Office of the County of *Montreal*.

By Command,

(Signed,)

J. LESLIE,

Secretary.

Secretary's Office,
Montreal, 31st January, 1849.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable *James Bruce, Earl of Elgin* and *Kinardine*, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Provinces of *Canada*, *Nova Scotia*, *New Brunswick* and *Prince Edward's Island*, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

In obedience to the injunctions contained in the Commission which it pleased Your Excellency to address to me on the 28th of July last (said commission being issued in virtue of the 55th Section of the ordinance of the 4th year of Her Majesty's reign, cap. 30, intituled, "An Ordinance to prescribe and regulate the Registering of Titles to Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, Real or Immoveable Estates, and of Charges and Incumbrances on the same: and for the alteration and improvement of the law, in certain particulars, in relation to the alienation and hypothecation of Real Estates, and the Rights and Interest acquired therein,") I proceeded to the fulfilment of the duties entrusted to me.

As my mission was special, and extended only to the obtaining of information relative to the Administration of the Registry Office for the County of *Montreal*, and to the manner in which the law which regulates it was followed and executed there, or in what respects, and on what occasions the officers appointed to superintend its execution had failed in the accomplishment of their duties, my investigation should necessarily have been confined to these objects, and the Report which I have the honor to submit to Your Excellency, ought, strictly speaking, to be kept within the terms of my Commission.

But as, in the course of the inquiry and examination which I have been obliged to make, for the purpose of obtaining the information Your Excellency required in relation to the said Office, I have been enabled to discover certain obstacles to the working of a law by no means in harmony with the system which its author has had the pretension to wish to improve, and into which he has thrown confusion and uncertainty, I request Your Excellency to permit me to add to the numerous and excellent suggestive observations of the gentlemen formerly charged with the inspection of Registry Offices, some remarks of which the sole aim is to promote, as much as possible, the important object of the ordinance in question.

On examining this Ordinance, one is readily convinced that if it were well and strictly put into execution, by conscientious and zealous officers, it could not afford the public advantages proportioned to the enormous tax which it