



HOUSE OF LORDS.

NOVEMBER 28.

ROMAN CATHOLICS

The Duke of Newcastle rose for the purpose of presenting the petition of which he had giving notice praying that Roman Catholics might not be allowed to form any part of the Legislature. The noble lord agreed most cordially with the prayer of the petition. With respect to the oath to be taken, it was the firm opinion of the noble duke that it was totally disregarded by all catholics.—(Cheers.) Nothing could be more highly creditable and at the same time so honourable to the parties as such a straightforward course. It did appear to him that as there was at present no security at all, it would be very proper for their lordships to adopt some measures which would prevent parties from doing anything injurious to the institutions of the country. When he said institutions he meant, of course, the protestant institutions connected with church and state. He did not mean himself to make any proposition on the subject but he would merely remark in presenting this petition that he thought as regarded Ireland it would be desirable to frame some measures by which Roman Catholics would be excluded from the Irish representation.

Viscount Lorton would give his earnest support to the petition which had been laid on the table, and sincerely did he hope that it would be followed by numerous others from every part of the kingdom.

Lord Melbourne was very unwilling to trouble their lordships on this occasion, as he believed there were few within the walls of that House who agreed in the facts stated by the noble duke, and in the petition. (Hear.) A measure like that of the admission of Roman Catholics into the offices of the state, and into an equality with all others of their fellow citizens, was a measure not to be tried by its immediate effects—not by a few years' experiment—but by what has followed immediately from it. (Hear.) It requires the experience of several years to bring out its character and bearings—it required to be tried under all circumstances; in times of prosperity and in times of adversity—in times of peril and in times of security—in times of peace and in times of war; and it was not by the experience of a few years—it was not by a short period of time that any real opinion could be formed upon the working and tendency of the measure. (Hear.) He begged to submit to the serious consideration of the noble duke whether he was acting according to those principles that he professed, and upon which he believed the noble duke wish to act, in so lightly leading his authority to disturb a great settlement so lately effected by the authority of the House and the other branches of the legislature. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of Winchelsea must say, that if a measure were brought forward for the exclusion of members of that church from a seat in parliament, it should have his most cordial support.

Lord BROUGHAM said the Noble Duke opposite, whose very name could not be mentioned, connected with the battles of his country, but with veneration and respect—that Noble Duke, regardless of all clamour, and in the firm belief that he was doing that which was his duty to his country had introduced the Catholic Emancipation Bill—a Bill which, in his (Lord B's) opinion, had conferred the greatest benefits on the country, and the introduction of which alone would carry the Noble Duke's name to posterity.—The country owed a debt of deep gratitude to the Duke for the introduction and carrying of that measure; and if the House was to go back, and to repeal that measure, it would be necessary not only to

go so far as the period at which that measure was introduced but he must go back to the period of 1773 and 1758.—My noble friend only last night most satisfactory and completely explained a misrepresentation, and this very night, within 24 hours, the misstatement is repeated. The noble Lord then alluded to expressions once falsely attributed to himself, and which notwithstanding he had publicly contradicted them, were continually reiterated. He concluded as follows:—My Lords, I only mention this, to show my noble friend how satisfactory it is to contradict. The slander is always much more highly spiced; the one is more of the nature of vinegar—the other more oily; the one remains on the palate—the other glides smoothly away; the one passes over—the other runs its course, until time unables the person against whom the charges are brought to outlive and ever—come the sting and enmity of the poisoned shaft.—My Lords, I must say that I seriously and earnestly hope that the Noble Duke and the noble Lord opposite and those whom they represent, will apply their minds to the real state of the country.—Adjourned.

RUSSIA.

The Czar arrived at Moscow on the 8th of November. A serious accident had like to have occurred to him as he descended Mount Caucasus. The axeltree of the vehicle in which he was broke as he was crossing a bridge, and the passengers were in consequence flung violently forward. The Emperor sustained no personal injury, but his mind which had betrayed symptoms of wildness before, is said to have felt the effects of the shock. The remainder of his voyage to Moscow has really been equalled in point of celerity. He travelled 104 leagues in twenty-six hours. He intends to return to St. Petersburg about the middle of December.

(From the New-York Albion, Jan. 27.)

The removal of Sir Francis Head from the Government of Upper Canada has produced grief and dismay throughout the colony. As we intimated, the difference arose between Sir Francis and the Colonial Office relative to some appointments. The Toronto Patriot says that his Excellency refused to do the bidding of my Lord Glenelg, and appoint traitors to office; and a Kingston paper hints that one of these traitors is no other than the notorious Dr. Rolph! Now if this really be the fact, it debases the people of England to forthwith investigate this matter, as well as some other doings at the Colonial Office. This is the second Governor of Upper Canada that has been sacrificed to the indolence, the ignorance, and the old womanish policy of the principal Secretary. Sir Francis, unless we have all been sorely mistaken in his character, is not the man to put up quietly with such treatment he will, we trust, take care to have Canadian affairs in all their bearing properly understood by the British people; and we hope that the Duke of Wellington, or some other patriotic nobleman, will give Lord Glenelg and opportunity of explaining himself before his peers. Further we would submit with all deference, whether it be not incumbent on the Parliament of Upper Canada to address the Imperial Legislature on this very subject as well as her Majesty intimating the pressing necessity that exists for appointing, without delay, a person of industry and capacity to take the management of the Colonial department. We are glad to learn that the House of Assembly has asked Sir Francis for the correspondence that led to his resignation; it will be, hope, to be given, when we shall more fully understand this extraordinary business.

LEGISLATURE OF UPPER CANADA.

F. B. HEAD, the Lieutenant Governor, informs the House of Assembly, that in consequence of the Province being invaded and assailed by the foreign enemy, and being the scene of actual Military operations, Colonel Foster, the Officer in command of Her Majesty's Land Forces has assumed the entire military authority and command over the Troops—that he is also in command of the Militia, and that the Commissary General at Quebec has Communicated to the Officer in charge of the Commissariat here, that consistently with the rules of the service no expences can be allowed unless sanctioned by the authority of the military commander upon whom the protection of the Province has thus necessarily devolved.

The Lieutenant Governor takes this opportunity to communicate to the House of Assembly, that having had the misfortune to differ from her Majesty's Government on one or two points of Colonial policy, he felt it his duty, on the 10th of September last, respectfully to tender to Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies the resignation of the important station which for a short time he has had the honor to hold in this Province.

His resignation having been graciously accepted, the Lieutenant Governor has to inform the House of Assembly that he yesterday received official information that her Majesty has been pleased to appoint Colonel Sir George Arthur to be Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, and that His Excellency may be expected to arrive here in a few days.

Under the peculiar circumstances the Province is at present placed the Lieutenant Governor feels confident that the House of Assembly will rejoice with him at the approaching arrival of an officer of high character and considerable experience, whose rank in the army will enable him to combine the military command with the civil government of this Province.

UPPER CANADA—EVACUATION OF NAVY ISLAND.

As we anticipated, the Navy Island concern has been broken up, and the "Patriots" have scattered. None, we imagine, have ventured to go to Canada, either jointly or separately.

Schlosser, Monday morning January 15, 1838.—Navy Island was evacuated last night.—The cannon belonging to the U. S. have been returned, and are lying at Schlosser. Thus far the despatch of our correspondent. We give below such additional information as we have subsequently learned.

It is believed that a large portion of Van Rensselaer's men landed on the adjacent parts of Grand Island, having previously sent across the muskets, &c., belonging to the State, which were committed to the custody of Colonel Ayres. The further movements of the disbanded force are left to conjecture.

We learn from Toronto that a bill has passed both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, providing for the trial of all Foreigners found in arms within the Province, and assigning to that offence the punishment of death.—The bill sus-

pending the operation of the habeas corpus act had also passed and both only waited the signature of the lieutenant-Governor to become laws. Sir Francis Head was expected at Toronto on the 13th inst.

IMPORTANT FROM THE MICHIGAN FRONTIER

Detroit, Jan. 7, 1837.

Our city for the last 3 days has been in great confusion, in consequence of the extensive plan of invading Canada by certain refugees and others, having been discovered.

Nothing of the movement was known save that a meeting had been held and resolutions passed, but it was thought the matter would stop there. It has turned out differently, for on Thursday night all the State arms in our city Arsenal were secretly taken away; on the same day 400 stand were openly seized at Munroe, and on the succeeding night our jail was robbed of all the arms and fixed ammunition which had been deposited for safe-keeping.

The next morning a vessel with about 800 stand and 100 men departed from our wharves for Bois Blanc, a British island 19 miles hence, and opposite Malden, at the conjunction of the River Detroit with Lake Erie. Attempts were also to have been made upon our city powder magazine at the Dearborn, which were frustrated by a guard being despatched from the city in time.

That all the enrolments should have been made—arms taken—men drilled—and this whole machinery of war put into operation—without the knowledge of our police, is a matter which our government will find it exceedingly difficult to explain to the satisfaction of the British nation, and should that people make reprisals or surprise our coast by cannonade, an impartial judge would deem the retribution just.

P. S. Monday morning Jan. 8.—Sutherland has arrived at Gibraltar from Cleveland with 70 men, and an attack upon Bois Blanc, of which the British are said to be in possession, is contemplated this day.

TORONTO, JANUARY 16.

The capture of the schooner near Amherstburgh is confirmed,—some prisoners taken, with some hundred stands of arms and three pieces of artillery.

Our navigation is open throughout, and regular troops are arriving among us in quick succession—a detachment left this morning (of 32d) for the London and western Districts,—they will now muster about 700 of 24th and 32d. The 80th will follow soon.

You have heard ere this of the unexpected change in an important one, in the recalling Sir Francis—he looks for his successor every day. To-day the assembly passed an address asking him for