

Bank of Mon-
treal.

Ordered, That the Petition of the Bank of *Montreal*, the City Bank, and the *Banque du Peuple*; and the Petition of *James Gibb*, Esquire, President of the *Quebec Bank*, be severally referred to the Select Committee, to which was referred the Petition of the Bank of *Upper Canada*, of the Commercial Bank of the *Midland* district, and of the *Gore Bank*.

Election, Third
Riding York.

Mr. *Tuck*, from the Select Committee, appointed to try the merits of the Petition of *Robert Harrison* and others, electors of the Third Riding of *York*, complaining of the undue election and return of *James Edward Smith*, Esquire, to represent the Third Riding of the county of *York*, reported to the House that the Committee met this day, but were unable to proceed to business in consequence of the absence of the Honourable Mr. Attorney General *Smith*, the Honourable Mr. *Aylwin*, and Mr. *Macdonnell*, of *Dundas*.

Resolved, That as the Honourable Mr. Attorney General *Smith* has absented himself, by reason of necessary public business, he be excused.

Resolved, That as the Honourable Mr. *Aylwin* and Mr. *Macdonnell*, of *Dundas*, have absented themselves, by reason of ill health, they be excused.

Commutation
of Tenure.

Mr. *Christie*, from the Select Committee, to which was referred the Bill, the better to facilitate commutation of the tenure *en roture* in the Seigniories and Fiefs in *Lower Canada*, into that of Free and Common Socage, reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and had made several amendments thereto; which amendments were again read at the Clerk's table.

Ordered, That the said Bill and Report be committed to a Committee of the whole House on Monday next.

On motion of Mr. *DeWitt*, seconded by Mr. *Christie*.

Wardens,
House of In-
dustry.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency, the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to direct the proper officer to lay before this House, a return of the names of the Wardens of the House of Industry of the city of *Montreal*, for the last five years, with a detailed statement of the Property, real and personal, held by them for the purposes of the said institution.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency, the Governor General, by such Members of this House as are of the Honourable the Executive Council of this Province.

Registry,
County of Hal-
lowe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Murray* have leave to bring in a Bill to make valid the registration of Title Deeds and other Documents in the county of *Hastings*.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Duty on
Tobacco

Resolved, That a Select Committee, composed of Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Merritt*, and Mr. *Dunlop*, be appointed to prepare and report the draught of an humble Address to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to recommend to the Imperial Parliament a reduction of the Duty on Tobacco, the produce of this Province, imported into the United Kingdom.

Mr. *Prince*, from the Select Committee, appointed to prepare and report the draught of an humble Address to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to recommend to the Imperial Parliament a reduction of the Duty on Tobacco, the produce of this Province, imported into the United Kingdom, presented to the House the Address prepared by the said Committee, which Address was again read at the Clerk's table, and agreed to by the House, and is as followeth:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN:—

We, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of *Canada*, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to approach Your Majesty with sentiments of deep gratitude for the encouragement afforded by Your Majesty's Imperial Parliament to our Agriculturists in the growth of Wheat, in this Province, and for the advantages still enjoyed by us, as the result of Your Majesty's maternal consideration towards us.

We now most humbly beg leave to state to Your Majesty, that in the year 1824, the Parliament of the then Province of *Upper Canada*, represented to His late Majesty, King *George IV.*, that the Western districts, though highly favoured with regard to soil and climate, were, from their remote situation, subjected to greater difficulties and expense than the other portions of *Upper Canada*, in conveying their produce to market:—that the uncertainty of a profitable market for their staple commodities, necessarily depreciate their value, and tend to check the Commercial and Agricultural prosperity of those remote sections of the Province:—that actual experiment had proved that the climate and soil of the Western districts were well adapted to the cultivation of tobacco, and that if their inhabitants were encouraged to turn their attention to that article, the Province would derive great advantages from its culture. Upon that representation, and the prayer thereto, Her Majesty's Government obtained from Parliament, such an abatement of the duties upon tobacco, the produce of *Upper Canada*, as it was supposed would enable the growers of the article to obtain remunerating prices, and to compete, in the English market, with the producers of tobacco in the *United States*. Experience has, however, shown that the abatement of 3d. per lb., which was at that time conceded, is not sufficient to afford that decisive encouragement which, it is humbly presumed, was intended by the Government, and desired by the Legislature of *Upper Canada*.

We would further most humbly represent to Your Majesty, that owing to the great distance from the sea, and the heavy expense of free labour, the growers of tobacco in *Upper Canada* are exposed to this further disadvantage, as compared with the growers of the same article in the *United States*; that although in ordinary seasons the climate admits of, and is congenial to the production of tobacco, of a superior quality, and the soil is equally favourable, yet there is always risk of a total loss of crop from early frosts; and although that loss may occur but once in several years, yet the apprehension of such a failure operates as a discouragement to the investing of capital, and increases the necessity of such protection as the Government of the Parent State can extend.

We further humbly represent to Your Majesty, that subsequent to the year 1824, and until about the year 1841, tobacco was grown to a very considerable extent, and some thousands of pounds worth were annually exported from the Western districts; but the cultivation of it has, since that period, most materially decreased, owing to the low duty, (1d. per lb.) which it has been deemed expedient to impose on the raw material imported into this Province from the *United States*, a duty necessarily low in order to prevent smuggling, and to increase our revenues, which, added to the present high duty on such raw material, (the leaf tobacco) when grown here, and imported into *Great Britain*, amounts to an absolute prohibition, and has rendered it useless for our Western farmers to continue the cultivation of it, thereby nearly ruining a large and industrious population, whose soil is