

of this Province, expressed in a joint Address of the two Houses of the Provincial Parliament, the Imperial Parliament has passed an Act repealing the Clause in the Union Act which imposed restrictions on the use of the French Language:

That this House learns with pleasure, that His Excellency has during the Recess been in communication with Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, and with the Lieutenant-Governors of *Nova Scotia* and *New Brunswick*, on the subject of the Provincial Post Office, and that on the meeting of the Imperial Parliament steps will be taken for conferring on the Provincial Authorities the entire control and management of this Department; and they trust that when the arrangements for effecting this object shall have been completed, it may be found practicable to establish a low and uniform Rate of Postage for the British *North American* Provinces:

That they concur with His Excellency in the belief that an increase in the Representation would be attended with considerable advantage to the public interest, and to assure His Excellency, that the subject, which is one of no ordinary importance, will not fail to receive their best consideration:

That they cordially concur in the gratification expressed by His Excellency, at the opposition manifested at one time in certain parts of *Lower Canada*, to the School Act, having in a great measure subsided; and that they will readily consent to make such alterations in it, as shall render it as little as possible onerous to the Rate-payer, without, however, compromising the important principle which it has consecrated in securing for all the youth of this section of the Province, the blessing of Education:

That the system of Judicature in both sections of the Province—the Laws for the regulation of Municipalities, and the Constitution of the University of King's College, shall receive their best attention:

That they learn with great satisfaction that the Officers employed in exploring the Country between *Quebec* and *Halifax*, with the view of discovering the best line for a Railway to connect these two points, have presented a Report containing much valuable information, and setting forth in a strong light the advantages of the proposed undertaking; and that a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies has been received by His Excellency, expressive of the interest taken by Her Majesty's Government in the execution of this great work:

That they will give their best consideration to the Accounts for the past, and the Estimates for the present year, when they shall be submitted by His Excellency; and they beg to assure His Excellency, that he may rely on their readiness to grant the Supplies which are necessary for the Public Service:

That this House participates in the concern expressed by His Excellency, that *Canada* has been seriously affected by the Commercial depression by which the past year has been unfortunately characterised:

That they feel grateful to His Excellency for having impressed on Her Majesty's Ministers the urgent necessity which exists for the removal of such provisions from the Imperial Statute Book as may tend to restrict the Commerce of this Province, by checking the resort of foreign Shipping to its Ports in search of freight; and that they receive with the highest satisfaction the information that His Excellency's representations on this head have been cordially responded to by the Queen's Government:

That among the measures to which His Excellency has been pleased to refer, as meriting the attention of the Provincial Parliament at the present time, as being calculated to raise the credit of the Province, to extend its trade, and to contribute to

the developement of its resources, this House is gratified at finding that His Excellency has particularly directed their attention to the following as specially important:

The provision of such funds as may be required for the completion of the *St. Lawrence* Canals, at the earliest period. With respect to which great works, they are happy to learn that it is believed, that they may be so far perfected at a small additional expense as to permit Vessels drawing nine feet on the outward, and eight feet on the inward voyage, to pass from *Lake Erie* to the Ocean, soon after the opening of the navigation; and that when this object shall be accomplished, *Canada* will possess an Inland Navigation unparalleled in capacity and length, and connecting the marts of a Commerce to the growth of which it is impossible to assign limits:

The enactment of a Law authorizing the alienation of works of a purely local character which have been executed at the cost of the Province, and giving the Government such powers as may be necessary for the re-organization of the Provincial Debt, and creation of an efficient Sinking Fund. That it is gratifying to feel that this debt has not been contracted in the prosecution of costly wars, whether of defence or aggression, but in the construction of works of utility, the more important of which can hardly fail, when completed, to prove remunerative; and further, that the existence of a large revenue, derived from Customs, places the creditor of the Canadian Public in a very advantageous position, which will be improved when the principle of a Sinking Fund is brought into active operation:

The amendment of the existing Immigration Act, with a view to the removal of such provisions as tend to prevent Immigrants who propose to settle in *Canada*, or the Western States of the Union, from proceeding to their destination by the route of the *St. Lawrence*. With respect to which important subject this House fully concurs with His Excellency, that the Passenger Trade is an important branch of the trade inwards, which cannot be discouraged without prejudice to the trade outwards, and thanks His Excellency for the assurance that he will not fail to make every exertion which the interests of the public health will permit, to reduce the expenditure of the Immigration Department to the scale of the years preceding 1847, when a passenger tax, considerably less onerous than that now levied, with the occasional addition of a small grant from the Public Treasury, sufficed to cover it:

That this House receives with peculiar gratification the recommendation of His Excellency to consider the expediency of setting apart a portion of the Public Domain, in order that the revenue derived from the sales thereof, may form a Fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of Common Schools; and to assure His Excellency that the subject will receive their best attention, as well as the important suggestion of His Excellency to invest the Capital arising from this source, either in the Stocks of the Province or in those of some of the principal Railways, the construction of which has been sanctioned by Parliament:

That this House feels grateful to His Excellency for the assurance that in maturing these and all kindred measures which have the promotion of the moral and economical well-being of the people of this important Province for their object, will ever find His Excellency willing and desirous to co-operate with them:

That they fully concur with His Excellency that in the possession of a Revenue derived from so many independent sources, and exempt from numerous charges that weigh heavily on the resources of other communities, *Canada* enjoys great and singular ad-