

important subject, recommend them to the consideration of your Honorable House.

With respect to the last head of inquiry, viz:— Whether any, and if any, what nature of encouragement it is expedient to give to the manufacture of Salt, and Iron, for home consumption: Your Committee have to remark, that it is deemed sound policy in every country to protect domestic manufactures, provided it can be done without making too great a sacrifice of other objects.

Domestic Manufactures give a value to our raw materials, and serve to retain within the Province, Capital, of which it must be deprived for the payment of similar articles when imported.

Your Committee however, are not prepared to recommend a system of Bounties, as the Provincial Revenue at this time is not adequate to pay them, even if it were deemed advisable so to do, They are of opinion that the manufacture of the necessary articles of Salt and Iron, should be encouraged by every practicable means; but that until the public Revenues of the Province are freed from their present embarrassment, the only measure which it will be prudent to adopt is, to impose heavy duties on similar articles when imported from the United States.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT NICHOL,
Chairman.

*Committee-Room, }
March 31st, 1821. }*