

Wednesday, 23rd November, 1831.

SIR JOHN COLBORNE, K. C. B. *Lieutenant Governor.*

*To His Excellency SIR JOHN COLBORNE, Knight, Commander of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, and Major General Commanding His Majesty's Forces therein, &c. &c. &c.* The Address.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council, in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave to return our best acknowledgements for Your Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session.

The consideration which induced Your Excellency to call together the Legislature earlier than the usual period will, no doubt, be fully appreciated.

We trust, with His Majesty's Government, that the late regulations introduced into this Province, respecting the trade of the Colonies, by encouraging a free commercial intercourse on the St. Lawrence, and increasing our exports, will be found to promote the general prosperity of the Canadas.

It is highly gratifying to us to learn, that in the contemplated change of the Timber Duties, nothing more was intended than a repeal of certain fiscal regulations, bearing unequally on the trade in England; and we congratulate the Province on the assurance of Your Excellency that His Majesty's Ministers are so well aware of the importance of the North American Colonies to the strength and power of the British Empire, that in any future change of the existing scale of duties, they will not cease to feel that the developement of their resources is an object of the greatest interest to which they can direct their attention.

We are fully persuaded that His Majesty in proposing to render the Commissions of the Judges dependant on good behaviour and not as heretofore on the Royal Pleasure, intended to afford a new proof of His Gracious desire to promote the welfare of the Colony, and we shall not fail to give our best attention to any communication from Your Excellency, relating to further instructions on that subject.

We trust that much benefit has been derived in every District from the last grant to improve the Highways; but concur with Your Excellency in the opinion, that a more effectual and permanent system for repairing the Roads and Bridges, and improving the communication with the back Townships, is necessary to give activity to internal Commerce, and to insure immediate benefit from the recent extensive emigration to this Province.

Our best exertions shall be used in considering this subject, and while learning from Your Excellency, that it is the intention of His Majesty's Government to propose measures for future periodical Emigration, and to afford aid to the advancement of Education and the encouragement of District and Township Schools, we anticipate with feelings of grateful acknowledgement, that such a preparation will be made for the reception of the different classes leaving their Parent State, as must enable us soon to find them spreading over the most fertile tracts in the Province, and enjoying a competence which the industrious settler seldom fails to attain in this happy Country of his adoption.

Ordered, that a Select Committee be appointed to wait upon the Lieutenant Governor, to know when His Excellency would be pleased to receive this House with their Address,—and—

Ordered, that the Honorable Messrs. Wells and Hamilton do compose the same.

The Honorable and Venerable the Archdeacon of York, gave notice, that on Friday next, he will move for a reduction of the quorum of this House.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Petition of Hugh Richardson, and others, residents of the Town of York, praying for aid in the improvement of the York Harbor, was read.

His Honor the Speaker gave notice, that he will, on to-morrow, bring in a Bill to annul the laws respecting the Murthering of Bastard Children.

His Honor the Speaker gave notice, that he will, on to-morrow, bring in a Bill for removing doubts respecting the Jurisdiction over offences committed upon the Lakes and Rivers in this Province.

The Honorable Mr. Allan enters.

The Honorable Mr. Wells, from the Select Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency, to know when the Lieutenant Governor would be pleased to receive this House with their Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session,—reported

Committee appointed to know when it would be received.

Members composing same.

Notice of a motion for reducing the quorum.

Petition praying for aid in the improvement of the York Harbor, read.

Notice of bringing in 21st. James 1st. repeal Bill.

Notice of bringing in Lake and River offences Jurisdiction Bill.

A Member enters the House.

Report of Committee appointed to wait upon Lieut. Governor to know when this House would be re-