

tion of Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Randall, ordered to be entered on the journals.

The committee appointed to draft an address in answer to His Excellency's speech at the opening of parliament reported that they had one prepared, which was submitted to the consideration of the house—read a first time; and on motion of Mr. Vankoughnet the 5th rule of the house was dispensed with—read a second and a third time, and ordered to be engrossed, this day. Engrossed, read and passed; and a committee appointed to wait on His Excellency to know when he would be pleased to receive the same.

Mr. Morris reported that His Excellency would be pleased to receive the address on Monday at 11 o'clock.

York, U. C. January 17th, 1825.

This day, at Eleven o'clock, the Honorable the Legislative Council waited upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with the Address, of which the following is a copy:—

To His Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, Major General Commanding His Majesty's Forces in North America, &c. &c. &c.

May it your Excellency

We His Majesty's most loyal and dutiful Subjects, the Legislative Council of Upper Canada, beg leave to approach your Excellency with our most respectful acknowledgements for your very gracious Speech from the Throne, at the opening of the present Session of the Provincial Parliament.

We regret that the accident which has deprived us of the Buildings erected for the use of the Legislature, has been attended with the loss of documents which may produce temporary inconvenience, though not we hope such as to render our labours for the public good less effectual.

The paternal affection evinced by our most Gracious Sovereign, in directing a very considerable sum to be dispensed from the Imperial Treasury to the sufferers by the late war, not only calls forth our warmest gratitude, but refreshes and strengthens that deep attachment which we have always felt for His Royal Person and Government.

Nor are we less deeply affected with His Majesty's condescension in attending to the prayer of this Province, and procuring by His Royal recommendation such a modification of the East India Company's Charter, as will admit of our being supplied hence forward with a most important article of consumption, in a manner that must equally contribute to the increase of lawful Commerce, and the suppression of an illicit trade which has been alike injurious to the Revenue, and prejudicial to public morals.

In the success of our Joint Address praying for a deduction from the British Import Duty on a principal production of the Western District, we most gratefully acknowledge another instance of the Royal consideration, by which much encouragement will be given to the agriculture exertions of the Inhabitants of that remote portion of the Province.

We rejoice that we are met to deliberate on the affairs of the Province at a moment when, happily for the interests of mankind, a variety of circumstances have concurred in raising the great Empire to which we belong, to a height of power and prosperity not exceeded at any period of her history, and daily feeling her genial influence and fostering care, we are anxious to attain something of that wisdom in our local arrangements which, under the auspicious name of a beloved monarch, the Royal Councils, and the measures of an United Parliament, has by the power of Divine Providence placed our Parent State in a situation which claims the respect and admiration of other Countries, and which, while it displays in a remarkable degree the blessings of internal happiness and tranquillity, holds forth the best assurances of security and peace to the remotest portion of her dominions.

The lively interest with which our most Gracious Sovereign views the efforts which the Colony has directed to the improvement of its internal communications, may well encourage us to redoubled exertions and while we participate in the great satisfaction met by your Excellency in the disposition evinced by His Majesty's