

joint Address upon the subject of the system of Crown Lands, and to request that His Excellency will transmit the same.

And further ordered, that Mr. Chandler acquaint the Council with the appointment.

Mr. Wyer, from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the Address of yesterday, praying that His Excellency would be pleased to direct to be laid before the House an account of Seizures made by the Revenue Cutters Elizabeth and Defiance, and the manner in which the seizures have been disposed of, reported, that His Excellency was pleased to say he would direct the proper Officers to lay the necessary information before the House at the opening of the next Session.

On motion of Mr. Taylor.—Resolved, that the Clerk be authorized during the recess, to have the Assembly Room carpeted, and also to have the desk extended, and altered in form, so as to afford sufficient room for all the Members, and that this House will make provision for payment of the expense.

The Joint Address of the Council and House of Assembly to His Majesty upon the subject of the present system of disposing of Crown Lands, was read, as engrossed, and agreed to, and is as follows :—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The joint and humble Address of His Majesty's Council, and the House of Assembly, of His Majesty's Province of New-Brunswick, in General Assembly convened.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.

THE Council and House of Assembly of His Majesty's loyal Province of New-Brunswick, beg leave, with sentiments of the most profound respect, to approach your Majesty on a subject, that most seriously concerns the settlement and advancement of the Province.

They beg leave most humbly to submit for your Majesty's most Gracious consideration, that by the return of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, it appears that he has sold under the new System of disposing of the Crown Lands in this Province, between the 30th day of June, in the year 1827, and the 31st December last, 187,336 acres, for which there has been received in payment, the sum of *nine hundred and sixty-five pounds sixteen shillings and fourpence* only ; that from this sum the incidental expenses attending the Sales, amounting to *five hundred and three pounds eighteen shillings and eightpence*, are to be deducted, leaving the sum of *four hundred and sixty-one pounds seventeen shillings and sevenpence*, as the nett amount of the purchase money.

That this sum, together with the deposits which have been made by purchasers, on account of survey expenses, amounting to *forty-nine pounds ten shillings*, are not sufficient to defray the expenses incurred in the Surveyor-General's Department for the surveys, made under the new system, pursuant to his directions, amounting to the sum of *six hundred and sixty-one pounds nine shillings*, and which have been allowed out of the Casual Revenue.

That altho' the lots have been sold subject to a proportionate part of the expenses of survey, it is reasonably to be inferred from the indulgence shewn to purchasers, many of whom are in indigent circumstances, that the payment of these expenses in many instances, will be evaded.

The Council and Assembly humbly conceive, that the above statement is sufficient to shew, how vain must be the expectation of raising a Revenue from the sale of Crown Lands in this Province ; while on the other hand, the injuries eventually to arise from a system, so eminently calculated to demoralize the people, and to sap the foundation of all those political obligations, which would bind them to the Mother Country, are abundantly manifest to all who are conversant with the condition of New-Brunswick.

Altho' there may not be on the lands so sold, any considerable quantity of Pine Timber, fit for His Majesty's use, yet there is in all of them an abundant supply of very valuable Timber of other descriptions ; which, by the mode now pursued, is permitted to be monopolized by the people indiscriminately, without any value paid therefor to the Crown, or any security that the actual settlement of the Country will be advanced ; for it is well and publicly known, that in many instances, this monopoly is the object of the Purchasers, who, when they shall have attained it, and disposed of the Timber, will abandon the land denuded of most, if not all, of its present value, and thereby rendered unfit for settlement by others. The Purchasers will be thus trained to practice deliberate fraud