

checked any tendency to disorder, as no further trouble occurred.—The fifth session of the sixth General Assembly of Nova Scotia commenced on 6th October and closed on the 23rd December, when the Governor (Legge) referred to the question of the public debt of Nova Scotia, expressing his astonishment that so young a colony should already have contracted a debt.—A census was taken in Cape Breton in October, when the population amounted to 1013 persons, of whom 686 were Roman Catholics, and 327 Protestants.—Sir Guy Carleton returned to Canada and assumed the reigns of government. The affairs of Canada had, during the governor's absence in England, been administered by M. Cramahé.—A notice dated 28th December, and signed James Jeffrey, was issued from the Quebec Post Office stating that mails would be made up at that office for New York at 2 p.m. on Monday and Thursday. These mails were sent *via* Montreal and Lake George. Notice was given at the same time that "for the convenience of persons who may have concerns on Lake Champlain," a Post Office had been established at Crown Point, and another at Fort Edward.—The Act 14 George III., Cap.

deliberative acts of the Colonial Legislature, and the universal complaints of the suffering Colonists. I can have no doubt on the subject. My decided opinion is that the Royal assent should no longer be withheld from the Act of the Colonial Legislature.

"At the same time, I doubt whether this Act will prove a sufficient remedy for the evil in question. It was but natural that the Colonial Legislature, who have found it impossible as yet to obtain any remedy whatever, should hesitate to propose a sufficient one. Undeterred by any such consideration, relying on the cordial co-operation of Her Majesty's Government and Parliament in the work of improving the state of these Colonies, I had intended, before the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, and still intend, to suggest a measure which, while it provides an efficient remedy for the evil suffered by the Colonists, shall also prove advantageous to the absentee proprietors, by rendering their property

83, commonly known as the "Quebec Act," was passed this year, and as its principles were warmly discussed both in England and America at the time of its passage through Parliament, it may not be out of place to give here a summary of its provisions. Section I. declares that all the territories, islands and countries in North America belonging to the Crown of Great Britain from the Bay of Chaleurs along the height of land immediately south of the St. Lawrence to the east of the Connecticut River, thence by line of latitude 45° N. until the line cuts the River St. Lawrence, (except the Hudson's Bay and Newfoundland districts) shall be part and parcel of the Province of Quebec. Section II. states the provisions of the Act are not to affect the boundaries of any other colony. Section III., nor to make void rights formerly granted. Section IV. declares all former provisions for the government of the province to be null and void from 1st May, 1775. Section V. provides that inhabitants of the Province of Quebec may profess the Romish religion subject to the King's supremacy as declared by the Act 1 Elizabeth, chap. 1, and that the clergy may enjoy their accustomed dues with

more valuable. Whether the inhabitants of Prince Edward Island would prefer waiting for the now uncertain results of such a suggestion of mine, or that the Act which they have passed should be at once confirmed, I cannot tell; but I venture earnestly to recommend that Her Majesty's Government should be guided by their wishes on the subject. And in order to ascertain these, I propose to transmit a copy of the present despatch to Sir Charles Fitzroy, with a request that he will, after consulting with the leading men of the Colony, address your Lordship on the subject.

"With respect to the terms proposed by the proprietors, I am clearly of opinion that any such arrangement would be wholly inadequate to the end in view.

"I am, &c., &c.,

"DURHAM."

"LORD GLENELG."