

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

From the Novascotian, April 12.

The John Porter arrived on Sunday last, in 25 days, bringing Liverpool and London files down to the 9th and 14th.

LOWER CANADA.—The English papers received by the John Porter, furnish full reports of the debates in the House of Commons, on the affairs of Canada. These are voluminous and deeply interesting. We copy below the Resolutions submitted by His Majesty's Government, and which were carried by immense majorities, in spite of the determined opposition of O'Connell, Hume, Roebuck, and others; who, supported by about fifty members, withstood the combined efforts and eloquence of Whigs and Tories. It will be seen that the Resolutions go to deny to the people of Canada, not only an Elective Council, but an Executive Council responsible to the Commons, and therefore are hostile to the views of a vast majority in our Assembly, who consider either one alternative or the other essential to good government in the Colonies. What the arrangements are which ministers contemplate, and which they assume will be satisfactory, remains to be seen; but it requires no prophet to foretell that the old story of responsibility to the Colonial Minister only, with an appeal to Parliament once in twenty years, will give as much satisfaction for the future as it has done in times gone by.

1. That since the 31st day of October, in the year 1832, no provision has been made by the Legislature of the Province of Lower Canada, for the defraying the charges of the administration of Justice, and for the support of the civil government within the said Province, and that therefore will, on the 10th day of April next ensuing, be required for defraying in full the charges at present to that day the sum of £142,160 14s 6d.

2. That at a session of the Legislature of Lower Canada, holden at the city of Quebec, in the said Province, in the months of September and October, 1836, the Governor of said Province, in compliance with His Majesty's commands, recommended to the attention of the House of Assembly thereof the estimates for the current year, and also the accounts, showing the arrears due in respect of the civil government, and signified to the said house His Majesty's confidence that they would accede to the application which he had been commanded to renew for payment of the arrears due on account of the public service, and for the funds necessary to carry on the civil government of this Province.

3. That the said house of Assembly, on the 31 day of October, 1836, by an address, to the governor of the said Province, declined a vote of supply for the purposes aforesaid; and for the said address after referring to a former address of the said house to the Governor of said Province, declared that the said house persisted, amongst the other things, in the demand of an Elective Legislative Council, and in demanding the repeal of a certain act passed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom in favour of the North American Land Company; and by the said address the said House of Assembly further adverted to the demand made by that House of the non-exercise of its control over all the branches of the Executive government; and by the said address the said House of Assembly further declared, that it was incumbent on them in the present juncture, to adjourn their deliberations until His Majesty's Government should, by its acts, especially by rendering the second branch of the Legislature conformable to the wishes and wants of the people, have commenced the great work of justice and reform, and created a confidence which kept the people from crowning it with success.

4. That in the existing state of Lower Canada, it is inadvisable to make the Legislative Council of that Province an elective body; but that it is expedient that measures be adopted for securing to that branch of the Legislature a greater degree of public confidence.

5 That while it is expedient to improve the composition of the Executive Council in Lower Canada, it is inadvisable to subject it to the responsibility demanded by the House of Assembly of that Province.

6. That the legal title of the North American Land company to the land holden by the said Company by virtue of a grant from His Majesty, under the public seal of the said Province, and to the privileges conferred on the said company by the act for that purpose, made in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign, ought to be maintained inviolate.

7. That it is expedient that so soon as provision shall have been made by law to be passed by the Legislature of the said Province of Lower Canada, for the discharge of feudal dues and services, and for removing any doubts as to the incidents of the tenure of land in free and common socage in the said Provinces, a certain act, made and passed in the sixth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Fourth, commonly called "The Canada Tenures Act;" and so much of another act passed in the third year of his said late Majesty's reign, commonly called "The Canada Trade Act," as relates to the tenures of land in the said Province, should be repealed; saving, nevertheless, to all persons all rights in them vested under or by virtue of the said recited acts.

8. That, for defraying the arrears due on account of the established and customary charges of the administration of justice and of the civil government of the said Province, it is expedient that, after applying for that purpose such balance as shall, on the said 10th day of April, 1837, be in the hands of the receiver general of said province, arising from His Majesty's hereditary, territorial, and casual revenue, the Governor of the said Province be empowered to issue from and out of any part of His Majesty's revenues in the hands of the receiver general of the said Province, such further sums as shall be necessary to effect the payment of the before mentioned sum of £142,160 14s 6d.

9. That it is expedient that His Majesty be authorised to place at the disposal of the Legislature of the said Province, the net proceeds of His Majesty's hereditary, territorial and casual revenue arising within the same, in case the said Legislature shall see fit to grant to His Majesty a civil list for defraying the necessary charges of the administration of Justice, and for the maintenance and unavoidable expense of certain of the principal officers of the Civil Government of the said Province.

10. That great inconvenience has been sustained by His Majesty's subjects inhabiting the Provinces of Lower Canada and Upper Canada, from the want of some adequate means for regulating and adjusting questions respecting the trade and commerce of the said Province, and divers other questions wherein the said Provinces have a common interest; and it is expedient that the Legislature of the said Provinces respectively be authorised to make provision for the joint regulation and adjustment of such their common interests.

TIMBER TRADE.—The price of Pine Timber throughout the whole of the year has been tolerably steady, rather improving towards the close of the season. Circumstances which affected the prices of most other descriptions of Produce (we allude to the monetary crisis, now happily passing over) had little effect upon

Timber, prices remaining steady, with a tolerable demand; and notwithstanding there always will be periodical seasons of activity and dullness in the Trade, yet for the ensuing year we look forward to a healthy state of the Timber Trade, partly from the low state of stocks, and partly also from the progressive increase of the Cotton Trade.—*Liverpool G. B. Feb. 1st.*

FOREIGN.

HOLLAND.—It will be remembered that, by a judgment by default rendered at the Civil Tribunal of Brussels, King William was condemned to pay the sum of 17,495,644 francs, 60 cents. In virtue of this judgment, the bank has just seized the building which serves for a magazine to the Theatre Royal in the rue de la Fiance, which is a personal property of King William. The expenses of the proceedings, enregistering, etc., amount to 247,238 francs, 35 cents.—*Providence Journal.*

C W B B B.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 19, 1837.

THE COLONIES.—For some weeks past, the proceedings in our Legislature have not been very interesting—as it has for the most of the time been in committee of supply. We have therefore, in our last and present number copied a variety of articles from our British and Colonial files; and in our next we shall resume the publication of such parliamentary debates as may possess interest.

A correct knowledge of what is going on in the adjoining Colonies at the present time, we conceive to be absolutely necessary. In all of them there appears so be uneasiness, agitation, and writtings under existing abuses, in some shape or other; all of them are seeking by constitutional means, to get relief from these abuses or grievances, and there can be no doubt that, unless prevented by timely and judicious concession, a crisis is not far distant.

In Prince Edward Island, the people are groaning under the burthens imposed on them by their British Landlords; and having lately sought relief in an Escheat Law, which was denied the Royal assent, owing to the influence exercised at head quarters by their Landlords—the Executive has lately gone the length to signify its displeasure at their holding constitutional meetings for the purpose of petitioning, and has dictated to the Legislature to deal with some of its Members for presiding at these meetings. The latter has valiantly and slavishly obeyed the mandate, and thrown three of its Members into gaol during the whole session, thus depriving them of the privilege secured to every Briton by the Constitution, and their constituents of a representation in their local Government.

If we turn to New Brunswick, we see the Crown under a specious show of liberality, surrendering the Casual and Territorial Revenues for a prescribed Civil List, yet secretly intriguing against the fulfilment of its own ostensible act. Our readers are already aware, that the draft of a Bill sent out by the Colonial Secretary, for the accomplishment of the above object, although passed *verbatim* by the Assembly and Council, was, nevertheless, refused the assent of the Executive.

Again, we see another act of petty tyranny in the Assembly of that Province—committing, and keeping in close confinement, unheard and untried, on the mere warrant of the Speaker, an individual who was chargeable with no other crime, save that of commenting freely on the public conduct of some of its members, and aiding in getting up petitions to counteract some of its proceedings.

The unsettled boundary line question in which that province is more immediately concerned than the other Colonies, will, we think, shortly produce some hostile