

that the capital should be in Upper Canada. This being conceded it was desirable to place the seat of Government as near the Lower Province as possible and Kingston was the nearest town affording anything like suitable accommodation. The selection was, however, more acceptable to the Lower Canadians than that of any other town in Upper Canada would have been, though they would, of course, have infinitely preferred Montreal or Quebec. The people of Kingston hailed the arrangement with joy, and looked on it as final—but it was not so to be.

Early in the very first session measures were taken to test the sense of the House on the selection of Kingston.

On the 23rd August, 1841, the petition of J. S. Baldwin and others of Toronto was presented praying the House to petition Her Majesty to cause the Parliament of Canada to meet alternately at Toronto and Quebec, or remunerate those cities for the great loss they will otherwise sustain. The subject was referred to a Committee.

On September 1st the Committee to which the matter was referred reported that having maturely considered the proposition therein set forth for the alternative assembling of the Legislature at Quebec and Toronto; and being fully impressed with the conviction that such a measure would not only be acceptable to the great body of the inhabitants of Canada, but would, at the same time, result in a great saving of expenditure to the public, have, in compliance with the prayer of the petition, prepared an Address to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, which they recommend for the adoption of the House, to be transmitted through His Excellency the Governor General, to be laid at the foot of the Throne.

On the 16th September, in the Order of the Day for the consideration of the report of the select Committee on the Seat of Government, the Address to Her Majesty was adopted. 26 for—21 against.

The Address set forth that while the question of the Union was under discussion only two places seemed to offer