

Minutes, 16th July.—Writs of summons to the Legislative Council issued to the following: William Osgoode, Chief Justice; James Baby, Richard Duncan, William Robertson, Robert Hamilton, Richard Cartwright, Jr., John Munro, Alexander Grant, Peter Russell.

Edward Burns took the oath as Clerk of the Crown, and Richard Pollard and Alexander McDonell took the oaths as Sheriffs.

Minutes, 21st July.—Additional proclamation issued respecting the continuation of civil officers in judicial and ministerial employments.

This proclamation was issued before a printing press was established in Upper Canada. I understand that it was sent to Montreal to be printed, and a copy of it is to be found in the department of the Secretary of State at Ottawa. Two points in connection with it may be mentioned. In the Quebec Gazette of the 9th August, 1793, appears the following news item:

"Letters Patent dated the 9th of July have been issued by His Excellency Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, dividing the Province of Upper Canada into counties, etc., and apportioning the representation thereof. The following are the names of the Counties, with the number of representatives they send to the House of Assembly, viz.: Glengarry, 2; Stormont, 1; Dundas, 1; Grenville, 1; Leeds and Frontenac, 1; Ontario and Addington, 1; Prince Edward, 1; Lenox, Hastings and Northumberland, 1; Durham and York, 1; Lincoln, 1; Norfolk, 1; Suffolk and Essex, 1; Kent, 2; making in the whole 19 counties and 15 representatives."

The question at once arises as to how the official organ at Quebec made the mistake in reporting the decision of the Lt.-Governor and Council. It appeared one month after the decision of the Executive. Does it represent the views of Simcoe before he left Quebec, which views were changed after discussing the situation with the Upper Canada Councillors? Was it the Council's first draft, or was it merely a news item sent down by some correspondent who was not exact in his statements?

The second point is that the proclamation must have been scarce and not readily available. The first time it appears in the Journal of the Legislature is on the 31st December, 1821, where it was placed on record by resolution of the House. It does not appear in the earliest printed collection of Statutes, but it is to be found for the first time, and, I am of opinion, for the only time in available form, in the volume of Statutes issued at Kingston in 1831, by Thompson and MacFarlane.

Now let us give a list of the counties beginning at the extreme west:—

Kent, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Lincoln, York, Durham, Northumberland, Hastings, Prince Edward, Lennox, Addington, Ontario, Frontenac, Leeds, Grenville, Dundas, Stormont, Glengarry.