

YOUR Committee, in the Report which they submitted to the House on the third day of February last, amongst the other matters pointed out the injurious consequences to the people of this Country, which would flow from that part of the Act commonly called the Canada Trade Act which relates to the commutation of the Tenure, and recommended an Address to His Majesty, praying that he would be graciously pleased to cause to be remedied the various abuses which exist in this Province relative to the Waste Lands of the Crown.

But as Commutations might be effected from one day to another by His Excellency the Governor in Chief in Council, under the authority of the aforesaid Act, and an injury thus inflicted which could not afterwards be repaired, your Committee directed that a motion should be made in the House, that an Humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor in Chief representing:—

“ That by an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom, in the Third year of His Majesty’s Reign, intituled, “ An Act to regulate the Trade of the Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, and for other purposes relating to the said Provinces,” it is provided, that any person or persons holding Lands therein *en Fief et Seigneurie*, may render the same into the hands of His Majesty, and may, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the said Province, obtain a fresh Grant to be made thereof in free and common Soccage, subject to the payment of certain sum or sums of money, in commutation of the Fines and other dues thereon which might be payable to His Majesty, and to such conditions as to His Majesty or the said Governor, Lieutenant Governor or person Administering the Government shall deem just and reasonable.”

“ That the unconceded Lands held by the Seigneurs *en Fief* in this Province, are held by them, subject to be regranted to any applicant engaging to settle thereon, subject only to the accustomed dues and conditions, and that it is on Grants of those Lands that the Cultivators of the Soil in this Province depend for the Settlement of their children, they the said Cultivators, and their children, having a legal right to obtain such Grants.

“ That any arrangement which might be made under the said Act, between His Majesty & the holders of such Waste Lands *en Fief et Seigneurie* would deprive a third party of a legal right, which is beneficial to the individual, advantageous to the community, & guaranteed by the Capitulations of the Colony, & by an Act of the fourteenth year of the Reign of His late Majesty.

“ That this House, conceiving that it is a duty incumbent upon it to support, in so far as may depend upon the House, every right of its constituents, humbly represent the matter to Your Excellency, and pray, that in any conditions which may be imposed on any Seigneur,