

Post Office

Masters General, imposing on the public instead, a charge on newspapers, of one halfpenny for each sheet.

Thirdly, it is intended that the Colonial Legislative proceedings shall circulate at the rate of one penny for four ounces, limiting the weight of such proceedings sent by Post, in ordinary cases, like other printed papers to sixteen ounces, but reserving power to the Governor or Lieutenant Governor of each Colony, to give a special direction to the Deputy Post Masters of the Colony, to send any particular Legislative proceedings through the Post at the usual rate of one penny for four ounces, although the documents to be so sent shall exceed the established limit of sixteen ounces. Fourthly, we propose to authorize the reduction of the internal rates on the correspondence of *British North America*, conveyed either direct by Packet or private Ship, or by the way of the *United States*, to and from this country, to the uniform rate of two pence the half ounce, the charge being progressive with the weight.

Her Majesty's Government will give their attention to the substitution, in *British North America*, of Penny or District Posts, for a certain number of the existing Way Offices, as soon as we are in possession of the necessary information on the subject; nor shall we exclude from our consideration, the important subject of the disposal of the surplus Revenue arising from the Post Office in the *British North American Colonies*. Upon these points you will hereafter receive from me another communication.

I have further to add, that the compensation to the Post Masters, and other Officers connected with the Post Office of *British North America*, will be duly considered by Her Majesty's Government, so soon as sufficient information to enable us to form an opinion on the subject, shall have been furnished.

I have, &c.,

(Signed.)

Stanley.

The Right Honourable

Sir C. T. Metcalfe,

&c. &c. &c.

*Ordered*, That one hundred copies of the said Message, and of the Despatch accompanying the same, be printed in each of the *English* and *French* Languages, for the use of the Members of this House.

The Honourable Mr. Hincks, one of Her Majesty's Executive Council, laid before the House, by command of His Excellency, the Governor General,

Financial Statements, required by a Resolution of the Legislative Assembly of the 8th September, 1841.

(For the said Statements, see Appendix V.)

On motion of Mr. Wakefield, seconded by Mr. Taché.

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency, the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, copies or extracts of any correspondence that may have taken place between the Executive and the Stipendiary Magistrate recently appointed on the line of the *Beauharnois Canal*.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency, the Governor General, by such Members of this House as are of the Honourable the Executive Council of this Province.

*Resolved*, That a Select Committee, composed of Mr. Simpson, the Honourable Mr. Solicitor General Aylwin, Mr. Wakefield, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Derbshire and Mr. Christie, be appointed to enquire into the effect of the *English Copy Right Act*, the consequent exclusion of *American* Reprints, and the policy of that exclusion, as connected with the probable influence on the minds of the rising generation of the Province, to report thereon with all convenient speed, with power to send for persons, papers and records.

A Bill to provide for the detention and conveyance to Gaol of Debtors in certain cases, within *Canada West*, was according to order, read a second time.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A Bill to fix the period for holding the Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, in that part of the Province, formerly *Upper Canada*, was according to order, read a second time.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill be now referred to a Committee of the whole House.

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Williams took the Chair of the Committee, and after some time spent therein,

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

And Mr. Williams reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and had made an amendment thereto, which amendment was again read at the Clerk's table, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill, as amended, be engrossed.

Mr. Watts, from the Committee of the whole House, on the Bill for the better securing the Independence of the Parliament of this Province, reported according to order, the amendments made by the Committee to the said Bill, which amendments were again read at the Clerk's table.

The Honourable Mr. Attorney General Lafontaine moved, seconded by Mr. Parke,

That the question of concurrence be now separately put upon the said amendments.

The Honourable Mr. Neilson moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Cartwright, that all the words after "That" in the said motion be struck out, and the following substituted: "The said Report be recommitted to a Committee of the whole House, with an instruction to modify the Bill so as not to establish any disqualification not established by Laws and Parliamentary practice in the United Kingdom, and more particularly to guard against all encroachments on the prerogative of the Crown to call such persons to the Legislative Council as it sees fit, conformably to the existing Laws, and the privilege of the people of electing their Representatives."

The question having been put upon the motion for amendment, a division ensued, and the names being called for they were taken down as followeth:

YEAS.

Messieurs CARTWRIGHT, McLEAN, MOFFATT, NEILSON, and WATTS.—(5.)

NAYS.

Messieurs ARMSTRONG, AYLWIN, BALDWIN, BARTHE, BERTHELOT, BOSWELL, BOUTILLIER, CAMERON, CHABOT, CHESLEY, CHILD, CHRISTIE, DALY, DeWITT, DUNN, DURAND, FORBES, FOSTER, GILCHRIST, HALE, HAMILTON, HINCKS, HOLMES, HOP-

English Copy-right Act

Debtors' Detention.

Courts of Quarter Sessions.

Independence of Parliament.

Financial Statements.

Correspondence Beauharnois Canal.