

General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, a Statement of the Arms and Accoutrements at the disposal of the Government, furnished by the Imperial authorities for the use of the Militia and Volunteers of this Province.

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

On motion of Mr. *Caron*, seconded by Mr. *Dorion* (*Drummond* and *Arthabaska*),

*Ordered*, That the Select Committee on the County of *St. Hyacinthe* Election Petition have leave to adjourn until Tuesday, the 31st day of May, instant, at the request and with the consent of both parties.

*Resolved*, That this House do now adjourn for the space of five minutes.

The House adjourned accordingly.

Five minutes past Four o'clock, P.M.

The House resumed the adjourned Debate upon the Question which was, on Monday, the 14th March last, proposed, That it be *Resolved*, That on the 2nd February, 1859, the Honorable *George E. Cartier*, the Honorable *A. T. Galt*, and the Honorable *John Ross*, then Members of the Executive Council of this Province, while in London, and acting on behalf of the Government of which they were Members, did address a Despatch to the Colonial Minister, in which they declared that "very grave difficulties now present themselves in conducting the Government of Canada in such a manner as to show due regard to the wishes of its numerous population;" that "differences exist to an extent which prevents any perfect and complete assimilation of the views of the two sections;" that "the progress of population has been more rapid in the western section, and claims are now made on behalf of its inhabitants for giving them representation in the Legislature in proportion to their numbers;" that "the result is shown by an agitation fraught with great danger to the peaceful and harmonious working of our Constitutional system, and consequently detrimental to the progress of the Province;" and that "the necessity of providing a remedy for a state of things that is yearly becoming worse, and of allaying feelings that are daily being aggravated by the contention of political parties, has impressed the advisers of Her Majesty's Representative in *Canada* with the importance of seeking for such a mode of dealing with these difficulties as may for ever remove them." That a Select Committee of twenty members be appointed to enquire and report on the important subjects embraced in the said Despatch, and the best means of remedying the evils therein set forth, with power to send for persons, papers, and records, and to report from time to time; and that the said Committee shall consist of the following Members, of whom seven shall form a quorum, viz: Honorable Messieurs *Cameron* Attorney General *Cartier*, *Cauchon*, *Chapais*, Mr. *Dickson*, Honorable Mr. *Dorion* (*Hochelaga*), Mr. *Dunkin*, Honorable Messrs. *Mowat*, *Galt* and *Holton*, Mr. *Joly*, Honorable Mr. Attorney General *John A. Macdonald*, Honorable Messrs. *Macdonald* (*Cornwall*), *McDougall* and *McGee*, Messrs. *McKellar*, *Scoble* and *Street*, Honorable Mr. *Turcotte* and the Mover

And the Question being again proposed;

Mr. *Jackson* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Parker*, That all the words after "as may forever remove them," to the end of the Question be left out, and the words, "That without affirming any opinion on the expediency of adopting the measure advised in the Despatch referred to, it is desirable, under present circumstances, that the number of representatives in the Legislative Assembly for *Upper Canada* should be increased, and that such remedy will be most satisfactory to the inhabitants of that part of the Province," inserted instead thereof.

Mr. *Dorion* (*Drummond* and *Arthabaska*) moved, in amendment to the said proposed amendment, seconded by Mr. *Jackson*, That the words "without affirming any opinion on the expediency of adopting the measure advised in the Despatch referred to, it is desirable, under present circumstances, that the number of Representatives in the Legislative Assembly for *Upper Canada* should be increased, and that such remedy will be most