

The Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to three Resolutions, which he was directed to submit for the adoption of the House, and asked leave to sit again on Monday next. Three Resolutions reported.

The Report was received, and leave granted accordingly.

The first Resolution was put as follows :—

Resolved—That during the last Session of the Legislature, a series of Resolutions was adopted by this House, attributing the chief causes of the evils under which these Provinces have suffered, to the injudicious division of Canada into two Provinces, which, with an Address dated 26th February 1838, were transmitted to the Home Government, praying for the adoption of such measures as would carry the same into effect. First Resolution put.

In amendment—Mr Robinson, seconded by Mr. Gamble, moves that the whole after the word "*Resolved*" be expunged and the following inserted :— Amendment.

"That this House, at the first Session of the present Parliament, passed an address (in which the Legislative Council concurred) to His late Majesty King William the Fourth on the subject of the union of Upper and Lower Canada, adopting the following sentiments :—' We earnestly trust, nevertheless that Your Majesty will graciously condescend to consider that the political condition of 400,000 of Your Majesty's subjects cannot be otherwise than most materially affected by so important a change in their Government—we are of opinion that such a change would expose us to the danger of consequences, certainly inconvenient and possibly most ruinous to the peace and welfare of this country, and destructive of its connexion with the parent state. This Province we believe to be quite as large as can be effectually and conveniently ruled by one Executive Government—united with Lower Canada it would form a territory of which the settled parts, from East to West, would cover an extent of eleven hundred Miles, which for nearly half the year can only be traversed by Land. The opposite territory of the United States along the same extent of frontier being divided into Six States, having each an independent Government !

"That notwithstanding the financial and political state of these Provinces, is very materially changed since the period referred to, and require prompt and vigorous measures to be adopted by the Imperial Government for their future welfare—still this House believe the main objections to a Union of the two Provinces exist in full force.

"Our financial affairs, certainly demand the most serious attention as to their present and future state ; and though they might possibly be benefited by a Union with Lower Canada, we are of opinion that so desirable a result, as the relief of our present necessities, may be attained with greater certainty by measures less fraught with danger and inconvenience to this Province—for this purpose we humbly conceive, a small additional duty on all imports to the Lower Province might with great justice be imposed for our sole benefit by the Imperial Parliament when it is considered, that a very large portion of our debt has been incurred for constructing improvements tending in a very great degree to the direct benefit of Lower Canada.

"We are further of opinion that the population of French origin in Lower Canada have, by the disloyalty of the great majority of them to the British Government forfeited those peculiar rights which were generously guaranteed to them at the time of their conquest ; and which have been found for many years past to operate to the serious prejudice and injury of the Loyal and British portion of the community—that in consequence of this ungrateful return for the humane intentions of the British Government, they can have no right to complain should the Constitutional Act of Lower Canada be so altered and amended as to confine (as in this Province,) the Elective Franchise to persons holding real estate in free and common soccage ; and also by a provision that all public business should for the future be transacted in the English language—changes, which there is every reason to believe would in a very few years (together with the influence of British Emigrants) secure to the loyal and well disposed that preponderance in the affairs of the country, which is now by some sought for through the medium of a Union with Upper Canada—a measure which its warmest advocates admit they recommend to the consideration of the British Government, with great diffidence and many doubts as to its beneficial effects."

On which the yeas and nays were taken as follows :

Division on amendment

YEAS.

Messrs. Attorney General, Boulton, Gamble, Gowan, McDonell, of Northumberland, Yeas—7.
Murney, Robinson,—7.