

neral *LaFontaine, Laurin, Lemieux, Marquis, Merritt, Méthot, Nelson, Notman, Papineau, Polette, Price, Sherwood* of *Toronto, Taché, Thompson, Viger, Watts, and Wetenhall.*—(38.)

So it passed in the Negative.

And the Question being again proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, representing to His Excellency, That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when a different and much more satisfactory arrangement may be made as regards the place of convening Parliament, than at present exists:

That it was the cause of complaints on the part of many of the Inhabitants of *Upper Canada*, that the Parliament was, in 1843, removed altogether from within the limits of their Province:

That it was suggested at that time, as each Province had enjoyed the advantages of having a separate Legislature within its limits from the first establishment of its Representative form of Government, down to the time of the Union, that after the Union it would be an act of common justice only for the Representative of the Sovereign to convene Parliament alternately at *Toronto* in *Upper Canada*, and at *Quebec* in *Lower Canada*; but the Legislature, to whom the subject was submitted, thought otherwise, and advised *Montreal* as the place to be selected, which advice was received and acted on: That within a very short period of time, however, this House has seen the Building in *Montreal* occupied by the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, rented and fitted up as it was at a great expense to the country, willfully burnt before their eyes, and the Libraries belonging to the respective Houses, and their records and proceedings, consumed with it:

That such then being the state of the case, and with the view of removing every obstacle that may have a tendency to hinder, or in any way interfere with the well-working of the Union, this House most respectfully begs leave to recommend to His Excellency to adopt the suggestion referred to,—that after the present Session, His Excellency will be pleased to convene the Parliament alternately at *Toronto* and *Quebec*, during periods not exceeding four years at each place; the first sitting, under this arrangement, to be held at such of the two places mentioned as His Excellency, in his discretion, may deem most advisable for the general good: That the plan here submitted is not without precedents in other countries, and that it can now more easily than at any antecedent period be carried out, inasmuch as all former records and proceedings in Parliament have been destroyed:

That each branch of the Legislature will now have to commence anew; and with a view to alternate sittings as herein recommended, their records and proceedings ought henceforward to be made out in duplicate, so that one copy may be deposited in the vaults of the Parliament House at *Toronto*, and the other within the walls of the Citadel of *Quebec*, where they will be secure from the ravages of fire, and from the attacks of external and internal foes:

That the Parliament Buildings at each of the Cities of *Toronto* and *Quebec*, are the property of the Province; that they are commodious and comfortable, and can be made ready for the reception of the Legislature at comparatively small expense: That under this arrangement, the Members of the Legislature will have a better opportunity of ascertaining and understanding, by personal observation, the condition, the wants, and the wishes of the whole people, instead of being confined, as they now necessarily are, in their knowledge of public affairs, to the narrow limits of their respective sections of the Province;

The Honorable Mr. *Macdonald* moved in amendment to the Question, seconded by Mr. *Flint*, That

all the words after "representing to His Excellency" be left out, and the words, "That at the time of the Union the Seat of the Provincial Government was, after due consideration, fixed at *Kingston*, and the first Parliament of United *Canada*, held at that place:

"That the Government purchased a large and valuable tract of land in *Kingston*, for the purpose of erecting thereon the Public Buildings required for the accommodation of the Government and Legislature, and that this tract still remains public property, and available for such purpose:

"That the inhabitants of *Kingston* expended large sums of money in providing for the increase of population consequent on its being made the Capital of the Province, in the expectation, and on the assurance, of its remaining permanently the Metropolitan:

"That the subsequent removal of the Seat of Government to *Montreal* was deeply injurious to the prosperity of *Kingston*, and ruinous to very many of its inhabitants who had embarked their capital in providing accommodation for the influx of population:

"That, in the opinion of this House, *Kingston*, from its central situation at the foot of the great chain of Lakes, and at the head of the River *St. Lawrence*, from its accessibility at all seasons of the year, and from the strength of its position and fortifications, is peculiarly well adapted for the Seat of the Government of this Province:

"That these considerations, as well as the recollection of the uninterrupted peace kept, and respect for the law shewn, by the people of *Kingston*, while it remained the Capital of the Province, induce this House to recommend His Excellency to appoint *Kingston* again as the Seat of Government and the place for convening the Provincial Legislature, should he, in the exercise of the Royal Prerogative, be pleased to remove it from its present location," added instead thereof;

And the Question being put on the Amendment; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:—

YEAS.

Messieurs *Burritt, Cameron* of *KENT, Crysler, Flint, Hall, Macdonald* of *KINGSTON, Richards, Seymour, Sherwood* of *BROCKVILLE*, and *Smith* of *FRONTENAC.*—(10.)

NAYS.

Messieurs *Armstrong*, Attorney General *Baldwin, Beaubien*, Solicitor General *Blake, Boulton* of *NORFOLK, Boulton* of *TORONTO, Boutillier, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Christie, Davignon, DeWitt*, Solicitor General *Drummond, Duchesnay, Dumas, Egan, Fergusson, Fortier, Fournier, Fourquin, Galt, Gagy, Guillet, Holmes*, Attorney General *LaFontaine, Laurin, Lemieux, Macdonald* of *GLENGARY, Sir Allan N. MacNab, Malloch, Marquis, M. Connell, Merritt, Méthot, Nelson, Notman, Papineau, Polette, Price, Prince, Robinson, Sauva-geau, Sherwood* of *TORONTO, Smith* of *WENTWORTH, Taché, Thompson, Viger, Watts, and Wetenhall.*—(51.)

So it passed in the Negative.

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