

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Note of the true state of the case, deduced from Mr. PRICE'S speech in the Assembly.

Existing Debt of Canada, about	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£1,500,000
Amount proposed to be borrowed,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500,000
									£3,000,000

Of the Monies to be borrowed, the motion before the House proposed to appropriate

To the Welland Canal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£450,000
To the St. Lawrence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500,000
To the Newcastle Waters Improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000
To Road from London to Port Sarnia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,000
To Road from London to Sandwich	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,000
To Road from Holland Landing to Barrie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000
To Road from Brantford to London	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55,000
									£1,136,000

One Million One Hundred and Thirty-Six Thousand Pounds, to be borrowed on the responsibility of the Province generally. There might have been some minor appropriations for specific places, which should be added to this amount as chargeable to this Province, but not knowing the detail—the residue would appear to be	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£364,000
									£1,500,000

Now note, the motion before the House proposed to raise the £1,136,000 upon the general responsibility of the Province and its revenue; but the residue was by the motion proposed to be loaned to particular districts, on their respective responsibility—to be paid for, both principal and interest, out of district taxation by the district councils. The districts thus selected to suffer this injustice, are the Home, the Gore, and the Niagara Districts. It is true, the Barrie road at present belongs to the Home District, and the Brantford road to the Gore. Yet the injustice remains, that in this effort to improve the general communications of the country, some parts should sustain the whole burden of their own improvements, while others are aided by Provincial resources, and these improvements of the selected districts not being merely local, but general provincial improvements. The main Roads through Niagara, Gore, and the Home Districts, are as strictly Provincial Roads, as those to Port Sarnia, London and Sandwich, as for instance the sum of £9000 is proposed to be expended on the Bridge and passage of the Rouge River. And the motion proposed that the Home District should borrow this sum for the purpose and, of course, should pay it by direct taxation of its inhabitants. Mr. Price felt it his duty to resist such injustice and voted against the motion, as did Mr. Baldwin, from the like sense of its injustice and gross partiality.