

Report of Committee on searching Journals of Legislative Council on Seat of Government.

consideration, been able to arrive at any other conclusion than this : that the soundness of the principles upon which *Upper Canada* assented to the Union has in no degree been shaken, and that no change has occurred to justify a departure from the policy of the Government based upon those principles.

Resolved. That in the selection of one place in preference to another, it is impossible, in this Province, entirely to avoid the effect of local interests and personal inducements, and that, consequently, no decision arrived at here will command the same respect, and be entitled to the same credit for impartiality, as would be cheerfully accorded, by Her Majesty's faithful subjects, to their Sovereign's decision.

Resolved. That, influenced by these considerations, the Legislative Council respectfully desire that Her Majesty will be pleased to exercise Her Royal prerogative in the selection of some place within the former limits of the Province of *Upper Canada*, at which the Parliament of *Canada* shall assemble ; pledging themselves to concur with the other branch of the Legislature in any grant to be made by them to Her Majesty, for the expenditure which may be expected to attend the permanent location of the Seat of Government at the place selected by Her Majesty.

The said Resolutions being read a second time, and the same being objected to, the question of concurrence was put on each, and they were severally agreed to by the House, and it was
Ordered accordingly.

Dissentient.—Because the consideration of the Message of His Excellency, the Governor General, on the subject of the Seat of Her Majesty's Provincial Government, was moved and proceeded in suddenly and without notice, upon an amendment to a motion for a call of this House, for the purpose of considering the said Message at a future day, and because the consideration of the said Message was thus brought on by surprise, no opportunity being given for the consideration of the said Message.

Because, at the time the consideration of the said Message was suddenly proceeded in, many Members were casually absent from *Kingston*, those who were present being chiefly residents in *Upper Canada*, and but four Members present who were residents in the *Eastern Section* of the Province, and because the said Message nearly concerned the interests and welfare of all the Province, and could not be satisfactorily settled in the casual absence of the greater number of the *Lower Canadian* Members.

Because the said Message was not translated into the French language, neither were the Resolutions before the House, and because time was not given for the translation of the said Message and Resolutions, although such translations were asked for by two and more Members, pursuant to the sixty-eighth Rule of this House.

Because the whole proceedings in this House on the said Message have been hurried through with unusual and unnecessary rapidity, notwithstanding that objections were made to such haste, as well as motions for delay, and notwithstanding that there was no press of business before the House, or any other just reason for precipitation in coming to a conclusion on the question submitted.

Because it could not have been Her Majesty's desire to receive the opinions of the Members residing

in one section of the Province only, and because the Resolutions adopted by this House in the absence of the greater part of its Members resident in *Lower Canada*, cannot be justly said to express the collective sense of this House on the question before it, and because therefore any consequence arising from the adoption of the said Resolutions cannot be satisfactory to the people of *Canada*.

Because the said Resolutions are not in compliance with the pleasure of Her Majesty, as conveyed in the Message of His Excellency, the Governor General, as the said Resolutions do not recommend either of the places, mentioned in the said Message, one of which Her Majesty graciously intended to choose as the place for the meeting of the Provincial Legislature, and because, while the said Resolutions affect to pray Her Majesty's decision as to the locality of the Seat of Government, they do so far as the Resolutions of this House can, solicit the restriction of Her Majesty's choice to some place in *Upper Canada*.

Because the place for the meeting of the Provincial Parliament should be fixed, with due regard to the convenience of the inhabitants of both sections of the Province, and to the language spoken in either, and because for the reasons set forth in the minute of the Committee of the Executive Council of this Province, a copy of which accompanied His Excellency's Message, it would greatly tend to the 'welfare' and contentment of the people of *Canada* generally, were the Seat of Government to be placed at the City of *Montreal*.

R. B. Sullivan,
Bmy. Joliette,
J. B. Taché,
A. Dionne.

Adam Ferrie.
J. Ams. Irving,
G. J. Goodhue,

Ordered. That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty founded on the foregoing Resolutions.

Ordered. That an Address be presented to His Excellency, the Governor General, respectfully requesting His Excellency will be pleased to transmit their Address to the Queen, to Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in order that it may be laid at the foot of the Throne.

Ordered. That the foregoing Addresses be presented to His Excellency by the whole House.

Ordered. That the Honourable Messieurs *De Blaquiere, Morris, Sherwood, and Draper*, do wait on His Excellency, the Governor General, to know what time His Excellency will please to be attended with the said Addresses.

Monday, 16th October, 1843.

The Honourable Mr. *De Blaquiere* reported that the Honourable Messieurs *Morris, Sherwood, Draper* and himself had, according to order, waited on His Excellency, the Governor General, for the purpose of knowing when His Excellency would be pleased to receive this House with their Address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Seat of Government, and that His Excellency was pleased to name one o'clock to-morrow afternoon for that purpose.

Tuesday, 17th October, 1843.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the House, that in consequence of the delay which his interview with His Excellency, the Governor General had this day caused, His Excellency had been pleased, at his request to appoint to-morrow, at the hour of half past one, to receive this House with the Address to Her Majesty, instead of to-day.

Wednesday, 18th October, 1843.

The Honourable the Speaker reported, that the House did this day wait on His Excellency, the

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