

While we feel every confidence in the earnest desire of His Majesty's Ministers to promote the general prosperity of the Canadas, by encouraging a free commercial intercourse on the Saint Lawrence and increasing our Exports, yet we are persuaded that His Majesty will not fail to perceive with how much greater advantage any new regulations respecting the trade of the Colonies might be introduced, were a sufficient period allowed previous to their taking effect, for enabling those concerned in mercantile pursuits to guard against any changes, which, though salutary in themselves, might, by their sudden introduction, prove ruinous to commercial enterprise.

We feel constrained to state, that we have viewed with unmingled regret the attempts which have been made to make alterations in the Duties upon Timber, which must materially affect that branch of the Trade of the North American Colonies, and the more so, as any alteration tending to diminish the amount of Tonnage at the Port of Quebec must necessarily, at the same time, lessen the means of transport for that increasing Emigration which proves alike beneficial to the Colony and to the Parent State; but we are, nevertheless, happy in receiving the assurance of Your Excellency, that should a change or modification in the existing scale of duties be at any time proposed, His Majesty's Ministers are so fully convinced of the importance of the North American Colonies to the strength and power of the British Empire, that they will not cease to feel that the progressive developement of our resources is an object of the greatest interest to which they can direct their attention.

We will not delay taking into our consideration the accounts and estimates, when laid before us by Your Excellency, and will not fail to make such provision for the Public Service as a due sense of that important duty shall point out.

The gracious acquiescence of His Majesty in the solicitations of this House, for the independence of the Judges, affords the strongest assurance with what confidence we may repose in the paternal disposition of His Majesty to concur in every reasonable request of His faithful Commons, and the readiness with which we acceded to His Majesty's desire, communicated during the last Session of Parliament, that a suitable provision should be made for rendering the Judges independent of the popular branch of the Legislature having been so graciously met on behalf of our beloved Sovereign, is an additional proof that an unsuspecting confidence on behalf of the people cannot be misplaced, when reposed in a Sovereign so affectionately solicitous for the welfare of His Subjects.

We shall be happy to receive any Message communicating the further instructions transmitted to Your Excellency, referring to this additional proof of His Majesty's desire to promote the welfare of the Colony.

We fully concur with Your Excellency in believing, that in every District much benefit has been derived from the last grant to improve the Highways, and we are deeply impressed with the urgent necessity which exists and is annually increasing, for establishing a system which will ensure the effectual reparation of roads and bridges, and the improvement of the principal communications of the back Townships; to the accomplishment of which important objects we will not omit to devote our best exertions—the value of which, we trust, will be materially enhanced by our local experience.

We are happy to receive the assurance of Your Excellency that the measures proposed to guide the future periodical Emigrations, and the aid intended to be granted by His Majesty's Government for the encouragement of District and Township Schools, and the advancement of the purposes of Education, will gradually prepare the Colony for the reception of the Agricultural classes leaving the Parent State; and we fully participate in the hope expressed by Your Excellency, that we shall soon see this valuable description of Settlers enjoying that competence, which, in this prosperous Country, is the sure reward of honesty, industry, and sobriety.

ARCHIBALD McLEAN,
SPEAKER.

Commons House of Assembly, }
24th November, 1831. }

Committee to wait on His Excellency to know when He will receive Address.

Mr. Attorney General, seconded by Mr. White, moves that Messieurs R. D. Fraser and McMartin, be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to ascertain when His Excellency will be pleased to receive the Address of this House, in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of this Session.

Committee on Petition of Peter Franks and others chosen by ballot.

Ordered.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the House proceeded to ballot for a Select Committee, to consider and report upon the Petition of the Inhabitants of Vaughan, and upon other

Petitions of a like nature, when the following Members were chosen :

Messieurs—

KETCHUM,
BERCZY,
ELLIOTT,
DUNCOMBE,
THOMSON,
FRASER A.—and
SAMSON.

Committee on Grievance Petitions.

Mr. Burwell brought up the Petition of Stephen H. Elliott, and one hundred and two others, of the London District; which was laid on the Table.

Petitions brought up. Of Stephen H. Elliott and others. Of R. L. McKenney and others.

Mr. Burwell, brought up the petition of R. L. McKenney, and ninety-four others, of the London District, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Solicitor General brought up the petition of Paul Glasford, and Sixty-six others, of the Town of Brockville, which was laid on the table.

Of Paul Glasford and others.

Mr. Solicitor General brought up the petition of John Kirby, and eighty-seven others, of the Town of Kingston, which was laid on the table.

Of John Kirby and others.

Mr. MacKenzie brought up the petition of Miles Bacon, Chairman of a Town Meeting in Caledon, in the County of York, and eighty-five others, which was laid on the table.

Of Miles Bacon Chairman of a Meeting, and others.

Mr. Attorney General brought up the petition of Mr. D. Brakenbridge, and two hundred and thirteen others, which was laid on the table.

Of D. Brakenbridge and others.

Mr. White brought up the petition of William Merrill, and thirty-nine others, of the Township of Sidney, in the Midland District; which was laid on the table.

Of William Merrill and others.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Petition of the President and Directors of the Bank of Upper Canada, praying for an increase of their Capital Stock. The petition of Arad Smalley, and fourteen others of North Gwillimbury, in the County of Simcoe, praying that the side lines of their lots, as originally run, may be, by law, established. The petition of Thomas Barnett of the Township of Stamford, in the District of Niagara, praying for pecuniary aid in the establishment and completion of a Museum at the Niagara Falls. The petition of James Coates, and one hundred and forty-one others, of Albion, and of Wm. Devenish, and two hundred and forty-four others, of Scarborough, in the County of York, praying the same as Peter Frank and others of Vaughan (see page 12.) And the petition of Thomas Markland, and one hundred and six others, of the Town of Kingston, praying to be Incorporated as a Banking Company in the said Town of Kingston, by the name and description of "The Commercial Bank of Upper Canada," were read.

U. C. Bank Petition read.

Petition of Arad Smalley and others read.

Petition of Thomas Barnett read.

Petition of James Coates and others, and William Devenish and others.

Petition of Thomas Markland and others read.

Mr. Solicitor General, seconded by Mr. Jarvis, moves for leave to bring in a Bill in pursuance of the petition of Thomas Markland, and others.

Kingston Bank Bill brought in and read.

Which was granted and the Bill was read and ordered for a second reading to-morrow.

Mr. Bidwell, seconded by Mr. Samson, moves that the petition of John Turnbull, and others, be referred to the Select Committee, to whom were referred the petition of Wm. Zwick, and others, and Thomas Markland and others.

Petition of John Turnbull and others referred.

Ordered.

Mr. MacKenzie, seconded by Mr. Cook, moves that the petition from the Township of Albion be referred to a Select Committee, to be composed of Messrs. Ketchum, Shaver, Perry, and Buell, with power to report by Bill, Address, or otherwise.

Motion for referring the Petition of James Coates and others to Select Committee.

In amendment, Mr. Thomson, seconded by Mr. Burwell, moves that all after the word "moves" in the original motion, be expunged, and the following words inserted: "That the petition of the inhabitants of the Township of Albion, and also the petition of the inhabitants of the Township of Scarborough, be referred to the Committee to whom was referred the petition of the people of Vaughan.

An amendment moved for referring the Petition to the Committee on Vaughan Petition.

On which the House divided, and the yeas and nays were taken as follows:

House divides on amendment.

YEAS.—Messieurs,

Atty. General; Elliott, Mount, Thomson, Yeas 15.
Berczy, Lewis, Samson, Warren,
Boulton, Macnab, Shade, W. Wilson,
Burwell, Macon, Sol. General, 15

NAYS.—Messieurs,

Buell, Howard, MacKenzie, Shaver, Nays 14.
Campbell, Ketchum, Randal, Werden,
Cook, McCall, Roblin, White,
Duncombe, 14.