

at the opening of the Session ; and I beg you to proceed, with diligence and unanimity, to the immediate consideration of the business for which you are now assembled ;—and I assure you, that I will contribute every thing in my power, to accomplish a purpose so desirable.

On motion, *ordered*, that Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Robie, and Mr. Archibald, be a Committee to prepare an answer to His Excellency's Speech.

Mr. Secretary George, by order of his Excellency, delivered to the House, an estimate for the support of the Civil Establishment of his Majesty's Government, also

An Estimate for the service of Roads and Bridges for the year 1810.

*Ordered*, That the said Estimates do lie on the Table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

On motion, *ordered*, that Mr. Mortimer, Mr. Lawson, and Mr. James, be a Committee of this House, for the purpose of examining the Public Accounts, jointly with a Committee of his Majesty's Council, and that the Clerk do acquaint the Council therewith.

Mr. Pyke (Quarter Master General of Militia) delivered to the House, an Account of disbursements for the carriage of Arms, between 14th June, 1808, and 16th September, 1809, amounting to £. 274 16 6 ; and also,

An account of Arms and Accoutrements, purchased for and issued to the Militia, between the 30th August, 1808, and 30th September, 1809, amounting to £. 11136 2 9½, and of the payments made on account of the same.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts do lie on the Table to be perused by the Members of the House.

A Message from the Council acquainting the House, that they had appointed a Committee to join the Committee of this House, on the examination of the Public Accounts.

On motion, *ordered*, That Mr. Haliburton, Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Pearson, be a committee to examine into and report on the expiring Laws.

*Resolved*, That no Petition of a private nature be received by this House, after the 20th instant.

A Petition of William Sabatier and others, Merchants and Inhabitants of Halifax, was presented by Mr. Hutchinson, and read, setting forth : that in consequence of the late indulgencies granted to foreigners in supplying the West India Islands, and the depression thereby occasioned to the Trade of this Province, and others his Majesty's North American Colonies, the Petitioners were appointed at a public meeting held in Halifax, a committee to solicit his Majesty's Ministers on that subject, and to watch over, and endeavour to promote, the general commercial interests of the community. That the Petitioners beg leave to express their well founded belief, that the present is the most important crisis for the Agriculture and Trade of the Province, which it has ever known, and they confidently flatter themselves that the General Assembly, viewing the subject in the same light, will liberally support that general interest, the opportunity of promoting which so effectually, may never again return.

That the Petitioners, or their predecessors, have had various communications with