OF LOWER CANADA.

XIV. |

Parliament, were taken into custody, by Warrants signed by the Executive Councillors, in virtue of the power invested by the Act for the better preservation of His Majesty's Government.

The same Chapter describes the lingering affection of many of the Subjects of British origin, to the Constitution with all its defects, and notices the only indications of a wish to appeal to the Imperial Government, for its suspension, with the view of its future modification, which have come to the knowledge of the Writer. This appeal was not made in such a form as would have encouraged the Ministry to take the high responsibility of ordering the temporary suspension of the Constitution, or moving the Parliament on the subject, at a period when there was no certainty of an accommodation of differences with the United States.

The seventh Provincial Parliament met on the 12th of December, 1810, and was prorogued on the 21st of March, 1811; and the first Session was distinguished by greater industry and moderation on the part of the House of Assembly, than could have been expected. The variety of reasons alledged at the time to account for this change, is mentioned, but not deemed sufficient, more particularly that which ascribed to the Majority, a settled determination to make a moderate use of their triumph over the influence of the Executive at the recent General Election.

Mr. Panet was re-elected Speaker, and approved by His Excellency; who opened the Session with a Speech confined to the relations between Great Britain and the United States, and to local affairs. His Excellency recommended the continuation of the Acts for the better preservation of His Majesty's Government, and the regulation of Aliens; and he ended His Speech, by promising to concur in any Measures for the public welfare, which both Houses might jointly propose.

The Address of the Legislative Council, was an echo to the Speech; but the Majority of the House of Assembly, introduced into the Address of that body, a marked disapprobation of the use made by the Executive, of the powers conferred by the Act for the better preservation of His. Majesty's Government; and this paragraph was remarked upon in the Governor's reply.

This same Chapter contains a long detail of questions connected with local affairs and proceedings on various Petitions, which the short Sessions and existences of the fifth and sixth Parliaments had kept in arrear.

On the 20th of March, this busy Session was closed with the interesting and impressive farewell Speech of *Sir James Henry Craig*, which is the more worthy of being referred to; because we may conjecture from it, that the Report of his Administration to the Prince Regent, his present Majesty, would not have concealed the jealousies existing between different portions of the Province, and among its mixed population, nor neglected to recommend some remedy for the

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