

November 17th 1831, [2nd Sess. 11th Parl. 2nd Wm. IV.] Nov. 18th 1831.

PROVINCE OF }  
UPPER CANADA. }

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

THURSDAY, 17th NOVEMBER, 1831.

THE House met.

At three o'clock P. M. the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod came to the Bar of the House, and delivered His Excellency's Commands for the immediate attendance of the House, at the Bar of the Legislative Council Chamber.

The Speaker and Members present then proceeded to the Bar of the Legislative Council Chamber, and returned.

Messrs. McNab and Duncombe, introduced Mr. Shade as a Member representing the County of Halton; and Mr. Werden as a Member representing the County of Prince Edward, and conducted them to their seats.

Mr. Attorney General gives notice that he will, on Monday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill for abolishing Imprisonment for Debt in certain cases, and for the amendment of the Law in cases of Insolvent Debtors.

Mr. Attorney General gives notice that he will, on Tuesday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill for the abolition of all oaths, religious tests and declarations, tending to the exclusion of Individuals from any offices of trust or emolument on account of their religious sentiments.

Mr. Attorney General gives notice that he will, on Wednesday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill for defining the power and duty of Justices of the Peace and Coroners, upon the Commitment or Bailment of Prisoners in Criminal cases.

Mr. Attorney General gives notice that he will, on Wednesday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill for the Improvement of the Administration of Justice, in Criminal cases.

Mr. Attorney General gives notice that he will, on Thursday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill to punish disorderly conduct, by any person frequenting places se worship, during the hours of divine service.

Mr. McNab gives notice that he will, on Tuesday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the second year of His late Majesty's Reign, entitled, "An Act to reduce into one Act the several laws now in force, establishing District Courts, and regulating the practice thereof, and also to extend the powers of the said District Courts, and further to regulate the practice of the said District Courts in this Province, and to extend the jurisdiction of the same.

Mr. Speaker then reported, that in obedience to the orders of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the House attended at the Bar of the Legislative Council Chamber, and that His Excellency had been pleased to open the present Session with a most Gracious Speech from the Throne, of which, to prevent mistakes, he had procured a copy.

The Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, at the opening of the present Session, was then read as follows:

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: and*

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

I meet you in Provincial Parliament before the expiration of the usual period of recess, as the opening of the Session at this season appears in every respect more convenient to the Province than in the early part of the year.

Several regulations respecting the Trade of the Colonies have been introduced into this Province since the close of the last Session; which His Majesty's Government is confident will promote the general prosperity of the Canadas, by encouraging a free Commercial intercourse on the Saint Lawrence, and increasing your exportations.

An alteration in the Timber Duties was contemplated: it had in view however, solely the repeal of certain fiscal regulations bearing unequally on the Trade of England; and you may be assured 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 development of their resources is an object of the greatest interest to which they can direct their attention.

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

I have ordered the Accounts of the Revenue and Expenditure of the current year to be laid before you—and also the Estimates for the supplies required for the ensuing year to be prepared, assuming that the Civil List Bill passed last Session will come into operation on the first of January next. I trust that you will make the necessary provision for the Public Service.

*Honourable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen:*

The King, persuaded that the Judges should now be established in this portion of His Dominions independent on the Royal Authority, and the pleasure of the popular branch of the Legislature, has commanded that the enactment of a Bill shall be proposed to you, declaring that the Commissions of the Judges of the Supreme Courts shall be granted, to endure during good behaviour, and not during the Royal Pleasure.

I shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity to acquaint you, by Message, with the further instructions transmitted to me, referring to this additional proof of His Majesty's desire to promote the welfare of the Colony.

In every District much benefit has been derived from the last grant to improve the Highways; but you can neither give activity and perseverance to an advantageous internal commerce, nor render immediate value to the industry and capital gained by the recent extensive emigration to this Province, without establishing a system for ensuring the effectual repair of Roads and Bridges, and the improvement of the principal communications of the back Townships. Your exertions and local experience, in considering this subject; 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; which soon, I hope, we shall see spreading over the most fertile tracts of the Province, and enjoying a competence that few industrious Settlers in this prosperous Country of their adoption do not attain.

Mr. Attorney General, seconded by Mr. Samson, moves that it be resolved, that this House will, on Monday next, take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, from the Throne, at the opening of the present Session.

Ordered.

Mr. Samson gives notice that he will, on tomorrow, move for leave to bring in a Bill to require the Sheriffs of the several Districts in this Province to give security for the fulfilment of the duties of their office.

Mr. Jarvis gives notice that he will, on tomorrow, move for leave to bring in a Bill to prevent frivolous and vexatious law suits.

Mr. Jarvis gives notice that he will, on Monday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill to attach the property of absconding Debtors.

Mr. Elliott, seconded by Mr. Solicitor General, moves that the Postage to and from Members of this House, be charged in the Contingent Expenses of this Honorable House, by the Clerk of the House, during the present Session.

Ordered.

Mr. Attorney General gives notice that he will, on Monday next, move that it be resolved, that, whenever it shall be moved to take up any item upon the order of the day, out of its course, the question shall be put from the Chair without debate.

Mr. Elliott gives notice that he will, on Tuesday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill to regulate Line Fences and Ditches in this Province.

Mr. Bidwell, seconded by Mr. Shaver, moves that two hundred copies of the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor from the Throne, at the opening of the present Session of the Legislature, be printed, for the use of the Members of this House.

Ordered.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, 18th NOVEMBER, 1831.

THE House met.

Prayers were read.

The Minutes of yesterday were read.

Black Rod delivers His Excellency's commands for attendance of House at Legislative Council Chamber.

House attends, and returns.

Mr. Shade and Mr. Werden, introduced.

Notice of Bill to abolish imprisonment for debt.

Notice of Religious Test repeal Bill.

Notice of Bill for defining the power of Justices and Coroners.

Notice of Bill to improve the Administration of Justice.

Notice of Bill to protect Religious Worship.

Notice of District Court Bill.

Speaker reports attendance of House at Bar of Legislative Council Chamber, and copy of His Excellency's Speech.

Speech read.

Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, at the opening of the 2nd Session 11th Provincial Parliament.

Speech of His Excellency to be considered on Monday next.

Notice of Sheriff's Security Bill.

Notice of Bill to prevent vexatious Law-suits.

Notice of Absconding Debtor's Bill.

Postage to be charged in Contingent Accounts.

Notice relative to the order of the day.

Notice of Line Fence Bill.

200 Copies of Speech to be printed.