

upon the general Funds of the Province for the maintainance of the Provincial Post Office, is of opinion, that an uniform rate of three pence Currency should be established for Postage throughout this Province, and that the House will be prepared, to provide by Grant, for any deficiency of Post Office Revenue, to meet the necessary expenditure for internal communication, should such happen to exist.

5th. Resolved, That in the opinion of this House, it is desirable to have the concurrence of the Legislatures of Canada, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, with that of this Province, in views and measures directed to the attainment of an improved system of management of the Post Office Department, as far as respects these Colonies, and to the accomplishment of the proposed uniform rate of Postage, founded on the recognition of common principles, and of the necessity of an independent authority, placed in some one of the Colonies referred to, and constituted for purposes of central organization, and direction of the department under consideration, within certain limits, to be prescribed and defined, with the concurrent sanction of the Legislature of Canada, and of the lower Colonies.

6th. Resolved, That it is the opinion of this House, that such consentaneous views and measures would result in the establishment of an uniform and harmonious system of management of Inter-Colonial Post Office affairs that would not present the possibility of any collision of the Colonial or Inter-Colonial Authorities with the Imperial Functionaries charged with the management of the General Post Office, nor interfere with the interest of the Empire, in connection with that Department, whilst it would leave the net Post Office Revenue of each Colony, if such should exist, after deducting the expenses of management and communication within its limits, under the control of that particular Province.

Copies from the Journal.

(Signed)

J. WHIDDEN,
Clerk of the Assembly.

His Excellency Sir W. Colebrooke, &c. &c. &c.

(Copy)

To His Excellency the Right Honorable James Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K. T., Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the undersigned, in obedience to the instructions of Your Excellency and the Lieutenant Governors of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, to inquire into and report upon the practicability of establishing an uniform and efficient Post Office system throughout the British North American Colonies, based upon the views entertained by their Lordships, Earl Grey and Lord Clanricarde, and communicated to Your Excellency by Despatch, dated the 31st December, 1846, have given our best consideration to the various important points embraced in the subject of inquiry, and have now the honor to submit our Report.

On entering upon the duties assigned to us, we directed our attention to the representations and addresses which had, from time to time, been presented to the Imperial Government by the several Colonial Legislatures, in reference to the subject of the Post Office, as well for the reason assigned by Lord Clanricarde, that these appeals had induced His Lordship to make the suggestions contained in his letter of the 18th August, 1846, as from the fact that these representations set forth, in a prominent light, the various disadvantages under which the British North American Colonies laboured, and for which a remedy is now to be sought.

A very cursory examination was sufficient to satisfy us, that the Provinces, in their remonstrances against the transfer of assumed surplus receipts to the credit of the Imperial Government, were not actuated by any desire to convert the Postal Imposts into a source of Revenue, or to call in question the prudent management of the Imperial Government, but were prompted by a growing conviction that the social and commercial interests of the Colonies were intimately connected with the extension