

The House was adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the House was resumed, and

The Honorable Mr. *Vankoughnet* from the said Committee reported an Address prepared by them, as follows :

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir EDMUND WALKER HEAD, Baronet, One of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, 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, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of *Canada*, in Provincial Parliament assembled, respectfully thank Your Excellency for Your gracious Speech at the opening of the present Session.

We beg leave to assure Your Excellency that we shall give our earnest attention to the question of the Seat of Government of *Canada*.

The Legislature of *Canada* having resolved that a fixed Seat of Government should be selected, and having solicited Our Gracious Queen, by an Address of either House, to exercise Her prerogative in making such selection, and an Act moreover having been passed adopting beforehand the decision of Her Majesty, and appropriating the necessary funds ; we agree with Your Excellency that the Act of the Canadian Parliament and the decision of the Queen are binding on the Executive Government of the Province.

This House cannot perceive that the transfer of the Seat of Government to *Quebec* for a fixed period, until the completion of the necessary buildings at *Ottawa*, is involved in the duty which devolves upon the Executive, of carrying out the Queen's decision, or that any such arrangement has ever been recognized by any resolution of the Legislature ; and this House deprecates the expenditure attending a double removal of the Seat of Government, after the Queen's selection of a fixed site has been promulgated.

Any Correspondence with Her Majesty's Government, which Your Excellency may be pleased to lay before us, will receive our most respectful consideration ; we are prepared to recognize the Selection made by Her Majesty, at our own request ; and we shall not fail duly to acknowledge Her gracious compliance with the Address, which we ourselves caused to be presented Her.

We have much satisfaction in learning from Your Excellency that the commission for the settlement of the Seigniorial Tenure will shortly close its labours, and that a moderate outlay beyond the appropriation of 1854, will satisfy all reasonable expectations on the part of the Censitaires.

We agree with Your Excellency that the Municipal Law of *Lower Canada*