

The question being then put on the main motion, it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Palmer, Mr. Thornton, Mr. Coles, Mr. Beairsto, and Mr. A. Maclean do compose the said Committee.

Then the House adjourned for one hour.

And being met—

The Hon. Mr. Palmer, from the Special Committee appointed to prepare and report the draught of an Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to both Houses at the opening of the present Session, reported the draught of an Address, as prepared by the Committee—and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as followeth :—

To His Excellency Sir HENRY VERE HUNTLEY, Knight, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island of Prince Edward, and the Territories thereunto belonging, Chancellor, Vice Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency;

We, the House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island, in General Assembly convened, respectfully thank your Excellency for your Speech at the opening of the present Session.

In common with your Excellency, we regret the circumstance which has rendered it necessary for calling us together at this early and unusual period; but, feeling as we do the importance of the subject-matter which your Excellency has called to our particular notice, in two certain Acts of the last Session of the Legislature, we fully appreciate the motives which have induced your Excellency to enable us, at the earliest opportunity, to revise those Acts, with a view of correcting any error which may, by any construction, be deemed contrary to the object and intention of the Legislature in framing them.

Upon our referring to those clauses of the Acts relating to the Small Debt Courts and Statute Labour, as particularly designated by your Excellency, it becomes manifest, that in place of the Act now and during last Session in force, vacating the seats of Members accepting office of emolument under the Crown, the House recited the title of an Act of a similar nature previously passed, but repealed by the first above mentioned Act, in consequence of objections to some of its provisions entertained by His late Majesty, as communicated in a Despatch received in the year One thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, from the Right Honorable Lord Glenelg, then His late Majesty's Secretary of State for

the Colonies. We therefore beg to assure your Excellency, that we will proceed without delay to correct, by enactment, the errors in the Clauses alluded to, in order that what appears so evidently to have been the intentions of the Legislature may be fulfilled.

We will give due consideration to the Laws relative to Debtor and Creditor.

The Act relating to Boundary Lines of Counties and Townships shall receive our reconsideration, in any respect in which its provisions, practically, may be more justly carried out; in which case we trust we shall be enabled to avail ourselves of sources of information hitherto unattainable.

The subject of the Fisheries—one at all times of great importance to the Colony, and second only in magnitude to its Agricultural resources—cannot fail to obtain our earnest consideration, rendered more particularly necessary by the present depressed state of the markets for the produce of our soil.

The deeply interesting subject of Education shall now, as heretofore, receive our devoted attention. Duly impressed with its great importance to the present as well as future well-being of the inhabitants of this Colony, we fully agree in opinion with your Excellency on the moral influence which it has ever been found to exercise on society at large.

We thank your Excellency for promising to lay before us, without delay, the public Accounts. It is gratifying to learn that the Revenue will at least equal that of last year, a sure indication of the growing importance of the trade and resources of the Colony.

Upon an examination of the Public Accounts, we will cheerfully provide for the necessary wants of the Public Service; and we will give due attention to any communications which your Excellency may be pleased to bring under our consideration.

A motion being made, that the said draught Address be now committed to a Committee of the whole House;

Mr. Fraser moved, in amendment, to leave out the word "now," and, at the end of the question, insert the words "to-morrow."

The House divided on the motion of amendment:

YEAS:

Mr. Fraser,
Mr. Macintosh,
Mr. Cooper,
Mr. D. Maclean,
Mr. Macgregor,

Mr. Rae,
Mr. D. Macdonald,
Mr. Montgomery,
Mr. Dingwell.

NAYS:

Mr. Beairsto,
Mr. Dalziel,
Mr. Cambridge,
Mr. Longworth,
Mr. Douse,
Mr. Yeo,
Hon. J. S. Macdonald,

Mr. Macaulay,
Mr. A. Maclean,
Hon. Mr. Palmer,
Mr. Thornton,
Mr. Coles,
Mr. Hudson,
Mr. Wightman.