

MESSAGES

From His Excellency the Governor General on the subject of the re-union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada; together with the Resolutions of the House of Assembly and the Amendments thereto—and the Yeas and Nays thereon—the Address to His Excellency and his Reply.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 7th December, 1839.

The following Message was sent down by His Excellency the Governor General:—

TRANSMITTED 7TH DECEMBER, 1839.

C. POULETT THOMSON.

In pursuance of the intention expressed in his Speech from the Throne, the Governor General desires now to bring under the consideration of the House of Assembly, the subject of the Reunion of this Province with Lower Canada, recommended by Her Majesty in Her Gracious Message to both Houses of Parliament on the 3rd of May last.

For several years the condition of the Canadas has occupied a large portion of the attention of Parliament. That they should be contented and prosperous—that the ties which bind them to the Parent State should be strengthened—that their administration should be conducted in accordance with the wishes of the people, is the ardent desire of every British Statesman—and the experience of the last few years amply testifies that the Imperial Parliament has been sparing neither of the time it has devoted to the investigation of their affairs nor of the expenditure it has sanctioned for their protection.

The events which have marked the recent history of Lower Canada, are so familiar to the House of Assembly that it is unnecessary for the Governor-General further to allude to them. There, the Constitution is suspended, but the powers of the Government are inadequate to permit of the enactment of such permanent Laws as are required for the benefit of the People.

Within this Province the Finances are deranged—public improvements are suspended—private enterprize is checked—the tide of emigration, so essential to the prosperity of the country and to the British connection, has ceased to flow—while, by many, the general system of Government is declared to be unsatisfactory.