

diculed in a pamphlet printed at the king's press, and generally ascribed to Mr. John Macaulay. The report was adopted by the assembly, which completely exculpated Capt. Matthews. A motion was made that it should be printed, than which nothing could be more reasonable, as the Captain's fair fame had been assailed in the government papers in both provinces, with much virulence, and the story had travelled on the United States, who held M——tl—nd and Co. in deserved derision in consequence. I was much astonished at the opposition made to this motion, but it was voted against by Messrs. Walsh, Attorney General, Coleman, Burke, Cameron, Cryslar, Gordon, Jonas Jones, and the other two Joneses, McLean, Morris, Vankoughnet, and WHITE.

No. 81.

\$200,000 LOAN to WELLAND CANAL.

If public improvements can be judiciously accomplished by a frugal management of the revenue of a colony, it is well; but for such a Government as ours plunge deep in debt, and pledge the farms and barns of their constituents for the payment of the principal and interest, in order to put patronage into the hands of an executive as we have at present, in whom the country has little or no confidence, and to do this without enquiry too, and to enhance the value of the depreciated stock of a private company, and that too without examining into, or causing a detailed report of its affairs to be made to the country, such conduct deserves and has my unequalled reprobation. It is no excuse, in my opinion, that the western members were more immediately interested in the result of the Welland Canal. Their votes were, on the whole, rightly named bad votes; for if improvement was desirable at the expense of the people, the St. Lawrence should have been first thought of. On the Monday which the detested alien bill was passed, Mr. McBride, at the suggestion of Mr. A. Stewart, of Niagara, moved that the assembly should take stock in the Welland Canal to the amount of \$400,000, in addition to the loan already made, but as no person carried the motion, it fell to the ground; and it passed the house to take stock to the amount of \$200,000; and to borrow money, on the credit of the province, to pay the installments to the directors. The majority in favor of this bill were as follows: Messrs. Attorney General, Thompson of York, Alkinson, Jones and Charles Jones, Scoll, Baby, Beasley, Burke, Cameron, Clark, Cryslar, Cumming, Gordon, Horner, Ingersol, Matthews, McBride, McDonnell, and McLean.—20.

No. 82.

THE JURY LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (a useful improvement)

Mr. Beardsley, was opposed (7th Feb'y, page 79) by Messrs. Walsh, Jonas Jones, Ingersol, Attorney General, Burnham, Cryslar, Gordon, and McDonald.

No. 83.

DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

Mr. John Clark, had built his last and only hopes (either of coming back to parliament, or, if made a collector, by Robinson, on the Welland, of sending his friend Hamilton Merritt (whose catspaw he had long been) to the next assembly,) on the success of his plan for dividing Lincoln, once more, into ridings, which approach near close boroughs; and are easier, corrupted, and influenced than are great counties; which admit great landholders, possessing estates in different sections of a county, to vote for three or four members, while the honest farmer with his 200 acres can vote for one. John's hopes were blasted. Mr. McBride, whose conduct on alien Monday I never could comprehend, acted like a man in this one instance. He moved that John Clark's division bill should be kicked out of the house, or in other and more parliamentary language, read that day 3 months (see p. 80 journals.) The motion was carried, tho' opposed by the Attorney General, and the following household troops:—Messrs. Walsh, C. Jones, D. Jones, J. Jones, Beasley, Cameron, Clark, Cryslar, Gordon, Ingersol, McDonnell, McLean, Morris, Scoll, Vankoughnet, and York Thompson. Clark was opposed by his four colleagues.

No. 84.

ST. LAWRENCE NAVIGATION IMPROVEMENT BILL.

This was a bill for borrowing (not for saving out of the extravagant salaries of government officers, &c.) and laying out, thro' the medium of commissioners, such as P. Maitland would have approved, a great many thousand dollars, in order to commence, at the cost of this province, the improvement of the St. Lawrence, at that per end. \$200,000 had been previously laid out the same season by vote to take up in the Welland Canal, all of which, as usual, was borrowed. The votes in favour of

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