

closing of the navigation of the *St. Lawrence* renders it difficult, if not impossible, to obtain shipping from *England* to supply the sudden demands which, from the nature of the trade, are constantly arising, and which could readily be supplied at the American Seaports, whence vessels would at any time come round to the *St. Lawrence* if assured of remunerative freights; that the uncertainty which at all times prevails as to the route by which the products of the West will be transported to the Sea Board, must operate to prevent British Vessels coming to the *St. Lawrence* in sufficient numbers to ensure moderate freights during the shipping season, while the scarcity of shipping and the immediate rise of freights to *England*, whenever a large supply of products is sent by the *St. Lawrence*, has the effect of diverting those products through the *Erie Canal* to *New York*.

We beg further to represent to Your Majesty, that the Navigation Laws have likewise had a most injurious influence on the import trade of the Province; that it has not unfrequently happened that Canadian importers of sugars being unable to procure British vessels on any terms at *Havana* and other foreign ports, have been compelled to import their cargoes in American bottoms to *New York*, and thence through the American Canals to *Canada*, when, but for the restrictions imposed by the Navigation Laws, they would have imported them by the *St. Lawrence* in foreign bottoms which could have been readily procured.

We have observed with much satisfaction, that a Bill was introduced into the House of Commons during the last Session of the Imperial Parliament for the repeal of the Navigation Laws, and being of opinion that the provisions of that Bill are calculated to remove those restrictions from which the Trade of this Province is now suffering, we most humbly pray that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to recommend the subject of the repeal of the Navigation Laws to the favorable consideration of the Imperial Parliament.

And we would further humbly pray, that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to authorize the Governor of this Province to permit Foreign vessels to navigate the *St. Lawrence* above *Quebec*, under such restrictions as His Excellency may in his wisdom see fit to impose.

The said Address being again read, it was moved to agree with the Legislative Assembly by filling up the blank with "Legislative Council and the." Same agreed to, and

The question of concurrence being put thereon,

*The same was resolved* in the affirmative, and it was

*Ordered* accordingly.

*Ordered*, that the Speaker do sign the said Address on behalf of this House.

*Ordered*, that one of the Masters in Chancery do go down to the Legislative Assembly and acquaint that House that this House hath agreed to the said Address by filling up the blank with "Legislative Council and the." The Assembly informed thereof.

*Ordered*, that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General in the following words:—

To His Excellency the Right Honorable James, Earl of *Elgin* and *Kincardine*, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, 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. Address to His Excellency to transmit the same to Her Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of *Canada*, in Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with our respectful request, that you will be pleased to transmit our Joint Address to Her Most Gracious Majesty, on the subject of the Navigation Laws, in such a way as Your Excellency may deem fit, in order that the same may be laid at the foot of the Throne.

*Ordered*, that the Speaker do sign the said Address on behalf of this House. Signed, and

*Ordered*, that one of the Masters in Chancery do go down to the Legislative Assembly, and Sent to the Assembly for concurrence.