

Tuesday, 20th December, 1831.

SIR JOHN COLBORNE, K. C. B. *Lieutenant Governor.*

The Honorable Mr. Baldwin from the Select Committee, to whom was referred the Bill entitled "An Act to incorporate the Town of Brockville, and to establish a Police therein," presented their Report.

Report of Select Committee upon Brockville Police Bill, presented.

Ordered, that the Report be received, and the same was read as follows:—

Read.

The Select Committee to whom was referred the Bill entitled "An Act to incorporate the Town of Brockville, and to establish a Police therein," having taken into consideration the Report of a Select Committee, of your Honorable House, upon the same subject at its last Session, and having compared the Bill upon which the said Report is founded, with the one referred to your Committee, beg leave to Report:—

The Report.

That the Bill entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Town of Brockville, and to establish a Police therein," establishes a President and Board of Police for the Town of Brockville, with the usual corporate powers of suing and being sued, purchasing and conveying real and personal estate, and having a common seal, the officers of which are to be elected by the inhabitants of the said Town, possessing certain qualifications, and notwithstanding the said Bill vests in the said Board, powers not heretofore contained in any of the Police regulations of any Town in this Province, still your Committee are of opinion, that the said powers are not too extensive, and that for the internal regulation of Towns, the principle established by the said Bill, of electing the Officers of the said Police is better calculated to give satisfaction to the inhabitants thereof, and to insure a due discharge of the duties of the respective offices than the principle that has hitherto been adopted, and cannot, in the opinion of your Committee, be productive of any injury, either in a general or local point of view. Your Committee discover, upon examination, that the bill referred to them differs from that upon which the aforesaid report was made in several important and beneficial instances—It omits making any provision for the establishment of a Market in the said Town, and entirely restricts the said Board of Police from any interference in establishing the same, and strictly pursues the notice of application to the Legislature in the Gazette. The said Bill, notwithstanding it authorises a higher power of assessing the inhabitants of the said Town, than is now by law provided, reduces the amount which the said Police are authorised to levy much lower than the sum to which they were limited by the Bill upon which the aforesaid report was made, so much lower indeed, that so far as Your Committee possess the means of information, the amount established by the present Bill will afford general satisfaction to the inhabitants of the said Town.

Another material difference which Your Committee have discovered is, that by the Bill upon which the aforesaid report was made, the arbitrators to be appointed for the purposes therein named, were vested with a power in estimating the claim of any person to compensation for lands taken or damages in laying out or altering any street; to take into their consideration the benefit likely to accrue to such person from laying out or altering the proposed street by its enhancing the value of his property or producing other advantages; which power is entirely taken from them by the Bill referred to Your Committee.

Your Committee, therefore, having attentively considered the provisions of the present Bill, and feeling, as they do, that the rapid increase of population in the said Town of Brockville, and its growing prosperity require some Police establishment; beg leave strongly to recommend the said Bill to the favorable consideration of Your Honorable House.

[Signed]

A. BALDWIN,

CHAIRMAN.

Ordered, that the House be put into a Committee of the whole to-morrow, to take the said Bill, and Report of the Select Committee thereon, into consideration.

The Honorable Mr. James Kerby brought up the Petition of Alexander Richardson, and others, inhabitants of the Districts of London and Niagara, which was laid on the Table.

Petition of Alexander Richardson, and others, presented.

A Deputation from the Commons House of Assembly brought up a Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Charter of the Niagara Canal Company," to which they requested the concurrence of this House, and then withdrew.

Niagara Canal Company's Charter amendment Bill, brought up from Assembly.

The said Bill was then read, and it was—

Read first time.

Ordered, that the same be read a second time to-morrow.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned.

House adjourns.