

*Quebec and Halifax*, with the view of discovering the best line for a Railway to connect these two points, have presented a Report containing much valuable information, and setting forth in a strong light the advantages of the proposed undertaking; and that a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies has been received by His Excellency, expressive of the interest taken by Her Majesty's Government in the execution of this great work:

That they will give their best consideration to the Accounts for the past, and the Estimates for the present year, when they shall be submitted by His Excellency; and they beg to assure His Excellency, that he may rely on their readiness to grant the Supplies which are necessary for the Public Service:

That this House participates in the concern expressed by His Excellency, that *Canada* has been seriously affected by the Commercial depression by which the past year has been unfortunately characterised:

That they feel grateful to His Excellency for having impressed on Her Majesty's Ministers the urgent necessity which exists for the removal of such provisions from the Imperial Statute Book as may tend to restrict the Commerce of this Province, by checking the resort of foreign Shipping to its Ports in search of freight; and that they receive with the highest satisfaction the information that His Excellency's representations on this head have been cordially responded to by the Queen's Government:

That among the measures to which His Excellency has been pleased to refer, as meriting the attention of the Provincial Parliament at the present time, as being calculated to raise the credit of the Province, to extend its trade, and to contribute to the development of its resources, this House is gratified at finding that His Excellency has particularly directed their attention to the following as specially important:

The provision of such funds as may be required for the completion of the *St. Lawrence* Canals, at the earliest period. With respect to which great works, they are happy to learn that it is believed, that they may be so far perfected at a small additional expense as to permit Vessels drawing nine feet on the outward, and eight feet on the inward voyage, to pass from Lake *Erie* to the Ocean, soon after the opening of the navigation; and that when this object shall be accomplished, *Canada* will possess an Inland Navigation unparalleled in capacity and length, and connecting the marts of a Commerce to the growth of which it is impossible to assign limits:

The enactment of a Law authorizing the alienation of works of a purely local character which have been executed at the cost of the Province, and giving the Government such powers as may be necessary for the re-organization of the Provincial Debt, and creation of an efficient Sinking Fund. That it is gratifying to feel that this debt has not been contracted in the prosecution of costly wars, whether of defence or aggression, but in the construction of works of utility, the more important of which can hardly fail, when completed, to prove remunerative; and further, that the existence of a large revenue, derived from Customs, places the creditor of the Canadian Public in a very advantageous position, which will be improved when the principle of a Sinking Fund is brought into active operation:

The amendment of the existing Immigration Act, with a view to the removal of such provisions as tend to prevent Immigrants who propose to settle in *Canada*, or the Western States of the Union, from proceeding to their destination by the route of the *St. Lawrence*. With respect to which important subject this House fully concurs with His Excellency, that the Passenger Trade is an important branch of the trade inwards, which cannot be discouraged without

prejudice to the trade outwards, and thanks His Excellency for the assurance that he will not fail to make every exertion which the interests of the public health will permit, to reduce the expenditure of the Immigration Department to the scale of the years preceding 1847, when a passenger tax, considerably less onerous than that now levied, with the occasional addition of a small grant from the Public Treasury, sufficed to cover it:

That this House receives with peculiar gratification the recommendation of His Excellency to consider the expediency of setting apart a portion of the Public Domain, in order that the revenue derived from the sales thereof, may form a Fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of Common Schools; and to assure His Excellency that the subject will receive their best attention, as well as the important suggestion of His Excellency to invest the Capital arising from this source, either in the Stocks of the Province or in those of some of the principal Railways, the construction of which has been sanctioned by Parliament:

That this House feels grateful to His Excellency for the assurance that in maturing these and all kindred measures which have the promotion of the moral and economical well-being of the people of this important Province for their object, they will ever find His Excellency willing and desirous to co-operate with them:

That they fully concur with His Excellency that in the possession of a Revenue derived from so many independent sources, and exempt from numerous charges that weigh heavily on the resources of other Communities, *Canada* enjoys great and singular advantages; and they cordially unite with His Excellency in the hope that, under God's blessing, Legislation may be so directed as to enable her to reap the full benefit of them.

And which Amendment was, that the words, "That the proofs which the people of *Canada* have furnished during this period of general excitement and disquietude, of their love of order, and of the attachment they bear to their institutions will, they feel assured, tend to establish the credit of the Province on a firmer basis, and to promote its prosperity," be left out, and the following inserted: "That this tranquillity of the people of the *Canadas*, amidst the deep and general agitation which has urged the most enlightened Nations of *Europe* to the noblest exertions, often crowned with success, to alter and reform their vicious Governments, unwisely clinging to usurpations made by fraud or conquered by violence during the dark ages, but now intolerable, and that soon must become untenable in presence of free discussion, and yield to the reason and knowledge of the nineteenth century, proves that Canadians of all classes and of all origins have shown themselves friendly to order to a degree proving them entitled of right to be endowed with political institutions much more free and liberal than the defective Constitution imposed on them against their known and declared wishes, through their remonstrances and reiterated Petitions against the re-union of the two *Canadas*, wisely separated to their mutual advantage in 1791: That until the philanthropic and most judicious plan advocated by that pre-eminent and far-seeing Statesman, *Charles James Fox*, be realized, by the reform of our Constitution, through the extension of the elective principle to many other offices and departments than those wherein it now applies, and to such a degree, that Canadians, as he said, should see nothing to envy in the institutions of their neighbours, we have no better chance in time to come, than we had during a long and painful past, to obtain the good government of the Province, and through good government its general