

large revenues, independent of the Legislature, which must, in any country, endanger its liberties.

By the 31st Geo. 3d, Chap. 31, the British Nation intended to place at the disposal of the Provincial Parliament all revenues arising from the public lands, except the Clergy and Crown Reserves, for it would have been needless for His Majesty to reserve to himself one-seventh, had he intended to keep the whole. The allotment of that particular portion to the Crown, was a resignation of any exclusive claim to the rest; whatever proceeds therefore have been heretofore collected from the sale of such waste lands and applied by the Provincial Government without consent of Parliament, ought to be refunded, and such future mis-appropriations effectually prevented. It is with grief the country has seen the improvident contract under which the Huron tract of a million of acres of choice lands has been assumed to be given, at an almost nominal value, to a Company in London, while the annual instalments paid by them are expended by the Provincial Executive without the consent of Parliament, and the large amount realized by the Company from sales at a very advanced price are withdrawn from the Colony and transmitted to England. This improvident transaction, unsanctioned by any domestic enactment, ought to be held invalid, particularly as it was a transaction based in no degree upon the good of the Colony, whose lands are thus wastefully assigned. The Charter and all the Statutes connected with it, are a violation of the 18th Geo. 3d, and our Constitutional Act.

It must be assumed, that the British House of Commons never intended and will never sanction such a narrow and illiberal construction of the said acts, taken collectively, and viewed in relation to the interesting and eventful circumstances under which they were framed, as would deny the blessing of true constitutional liberty to the people of this loyal Colony, who, from the concessions made to the revolted Colonies, were driven from their homes, their fortunes and their country.

The injured interests of this Province require that this House should assert and exercise their superintendence and control over the receipt and expenditure of the whole public revenue from whatever sources derived; by which means the constitutional weight of this Branch of the Legislature will be restored, the wants and wishes of the people be properly respected, the improvident expenditure of the revenue be corrected, and all the natural resources of the country be efficiently directed to the many and urgent objects of public improvement, without resorting to present taxation, or those further loans which must be eventually paid by increasing the burthens of the people. The loyalty and attachment of the people of this Province to His Majesty's Person and Government would, if possible, be strengthened by entrusting to them the natural wealth of the country and the management of their