

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

TORONTO, 28th December, 1869.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit, herewith, an Address, voted by the Legislative Assembly of this Province, to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and to request that His Excellency the Governor General will be pleased to cause the same to be laid at the foot of the Throne. I also enclose copies of the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, which took place upon the introduction and consideration of resolutions, upon one of which the Address is founded.

(Signed,)

I have, &c.,

W. P. HOWLAND,

Lieutenant-Governor.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State for the Provinces, Ottawa.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN :

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, in Session assembled, humbly approach your Majesty, for the purpose of praying that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be submitted to the Imperial Parliament, for the purpose of removing all colour for assumption, by the Parliament of Canada, of the power to disturb the financial relations established by the British North America Act, (1867) as between Canada and the several Provinces.

All which, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, humbly pray your Majesty to take into your gracious and favourable consideration.

(Signed,)

JOHN STEVENSON.

Speaker.

House of Assembly, Toronto, 1st December, 1869.

(Signed,) Charles J. Gillmor, Clerk.

Mr. Blake moves, seconded by Mr. McKellar :—

1. That under the former constitution, large local expenditure in Upper Canada, and Lower Canada, were provided for by the Legislature of United Canada, a system which in the belief of a large proportion of the people produced great extravagance, lavish and improper grants of public funds for local purposes, an unfair distribution of the public revenue, as between the two Provinces, and other serious evils, all bearing with peculiar pressure on Upper Canada, and resulting in extreme dissatisfaction, and bitter sectional strife.

2. That as a remedy for these and other grievances, the scheme of Confederation was devised and submitted to the representatives of the people, who were assured, that under the proposed Federal Constitution, each Province would, for its local expenditure, be obliged to rely exclusively on its own resources, as provided by the scheme, and that the revenues at the disposal of the general Parliament, would be applicable exclusively to general, as distinguished from local services.

3. That the aid to be given under the scheme to each Province, towards the maintenance of its Government and Legislature, was proposed to be apportioned according to the population, in 1861, and was expressly stated, to be in full settlement of all future demands on the General Government.

4. That though there was no ground for argument, that the basis of apportionment