were made at a batch formerly, and not one of them ever voted against Mr. Pitt.—(Hear, hear.)—But I was about to request your Lordships to look a little towards the ancient Aristocracy of this House. There are 54 old Peers, ranking before the accession of George III. who will vote for this Bill, according to their expressed opinion, and 25 who will vote against it; and yet we are told that the old English Nobility have all, with one voice sworn open war against the measure.—(A laugh and cheers.)—Your Lordships may pass the Bill, and then we shall have peace and contentment; but I much rather dread another alternative. I dread that it may be refused, and that you may afterwards be induced, under other Ministers, in less auspicious times, to grant a far more extensive measure than that which is now proposed. (Loud cries of hear.) The old classic story will apply here. Oh, my Lords, let the old illustration of the Sybil never be forgotten by you.—The price that you are called upon by that prophetic Sybil to pay is, to restore unrestriction—under modification—under great modifications—the old fabric of the representative Constitution. You will not take the volume, you will not pay the price—that moderate price!—The Sybil shuts your doors no longer. You repent—you call her back—she returns; the leaves of peace are half torn out, and it is no longer the volume that first was offered, but she demands a still larger price, and you must now pay for it with Parliaments by the year, elections by millions, and voting by Ballot—you will not pay that price, and again you send her away.—What the next price may be that she will demand, and that you *must* pay, is more than I will say. This I know, as sure as man is man, and human error leads to human disappointment, justice delayed, wisdom postponed, must enhance the price of peace. (Loud Cheers.) My Lords, there is yet an awful consideration connected with this subject. You are Judges in the highest Court in the last resort; and it is the first office of a Judge never to decide even the most trifling case without hearing every thing. But in this case you are going to decide without a hearing—without a trial. (Continued cheers.) My Lords, beware of standing out on this sacred subject.—You may obstruct—you may put off the day—you may give a temporary life to the borough-jobber, and postpone the elective franchise to the greatest towns of the realm; but, my Lords that delay will have no effect in raising the respect of this House, and in conciliating the affections of the people of this country. (Hear, hear.) I call on every one except those who think no reform necessary, and they alone can give a consistent vote against the Bill—(Hear, hear,)—I call on you by this solemn appeal and remember, my Lords, I am in the same vessel as yourselves—I call on you—I entreat you—and on my bended knees I implore you not to reject this Bill. (Loud Cheers.)

The Earl of Eldon said he had felt it an incumbent duty, at the hazard of his age and infirmity, by reason of those threats which had been held out to their Lordships, and more particularly addressed to himself to stand up in opposition to this Bill.—(Hear hear.)—He would rather die in consequence of those threats, than desert that last duty he should have it in his power to discharge.—(hear)—On a former occasion on the discussion of the Catholic claims he had made a similar statement, and at that time he thought, having advanced to the period of fourscore years, that he should have little likelihood of again addressing the house, but he would not go to his grave without giving his opinion against this most destructive measure to the country—a measure which he thought himself at this period called upon to say, would reduce in its consequences, this country, hitherto the glory of the earth, to all these miseries which now afflicted the majority of our constitutional neighbors.—He might be in the infirmity of mind which naturally belonged to that of age, his opinions might be grievously mistaken, but so long as he was able, after much consideration, to form an opinion, he would state an opinion he had formed on this momentious subject. With respect to the corporations, much had been said regarding their closeness.—But he would ask, whether they were not as well entitled to their rights under their charters, under the great seal, as any of their Lordships were entitled to their peerages. In this Bill abolishing corporations, he could not but remember that of Newcastle, at the school of which an individual had received his education, who afterwards became Lord Chancellor. That individual was himself. There was a report abroad which he did not believe, because in the state in which this country was at the present moment situated, he did not believe any one would venture to do it, that the opinion of this house, somehow or other sooner or later, would be finally overruled by the importation of new Peers. He had such a dutiful feeling in respect to the House of Hanover, as would never induce him to believe that a step so detrimental to the interests of the subject, so subversive of the rights of that house, he would add, as certainly destructive to the Monarch, would be reccommended. If that report were correct, he hoped that house would not strip off their robes until they let their Sovereign know their sentiments. The venerable Earl, who spoke so freely as to be nearly inaudible, concluded by declaring that the Bill struck at the root of all property, and urged the necessity of at least thoroughly investigating the subject. In his opinion the Bill would lead to vote by ballot, universal suffrage, and the overthrow of that house. He must therefore oppose it as a last mark—of his affection for the house over which he had so long presided, and duty to his Sovereign.—(Some confusion arose during the nobles Earl's Speech, by Lord Oxford and others complaining that he was quite inaudible, on which several Peers rose to order.)

ENGLISH REFORM BILL.

"If the Lords reject the Bill, what will the people do?" was the title of a late able pamphlet by Lord Brougham. It was very eloquent, spoke loudly of the alienation of the peoples attachment, of prodigious excitement, of petitions innumerable. It would enable the people of England to throw off their long accumulating load of oppression, by destroying the power of the Aristocracy. "If the Bill be again brought in, what will the Lords do?" is the question now, and fearfully important are the results to which its decision may lead, it is not difficult to forsee that decision. The Lords will reject it—that or any Bill to establish popular ascendency in Parliament. New elections may be ordered, the people may hold meetings, petitions and remonstrances in myriads may be sent up, but the Lords will reject the Bill. Some modified measure—some plan by which the people shall seem to obtain representation, while the Aristocracy still control the election—may and will probably be adopted. But no Bill that shall effect more than that can receive the assent of the House of Peers. They are perfectly aware that the adoption of the proposed change would prove the sure commencement of a revolution, the extent and continuance of which cannot be estimated, but of which one inevitable effect would be the destruction of the system which enables them, the idle classes, to live and luxuriate upon the earnings of the working classes.

A cursory glance at the true character of the political institutions of the country, and their practical effects, may be interesting at the present moment. Composed nominally of King, Lords and Commons, the government, the power of making law's is vested really in the Lords only, or Aristocracy. They have long possessed means of controlling the election of a sure majority of the lower House, and they have used their power and skillfully for their permanent ends. The working classes are as much the *property* of those who have the management of the government, as the boors of Russia are the property of the nobles who sell them with the estates on which they work; but this is never said out openly there. The Aristocracy, governing according to the theory of the constitution, leaves to the working classes all the means for the production of wealth; every one may choose the business by which he thinks he can get the most, and security of individual property is ensured to all. But the higher orders through the medium of the taxes which they alone have the privilege of imposing, under the sanction of laws which they alone can make, soak up the greater part of the produce, and divide it under different names among the members of their body. The exercise of Aristocratical power is attached to the possessions of large landed property; the eldest son takes therefore the whole real estate of the family, and uses the power annexed to obtain for his connections, rich benefices in the church, commissions in the army, or sinecures, or places of some sort, which the people are taxed to pay for. And these are considered a part of the family property as much as the other. This is and has been the system in practice in England, and the tremendous results to which it has led are not generally appreciated. A few of them may be pointed out.

The higher orders knew that their power over the working classes would be in danger of being disputed till the working classes in other countries too were made the property of a family or a cast. Hence they supported the Turks against the Greeks, Austria against Italy, Don Miguel against Don Pedro, according to their system.—Hence for twenty-five years, from the day when the French ejected their masters and set up for themselves, England waged war against them, until the government of their own creation was overthrown and their "legitimate" masters, those who claimed a *property* in them by divine right, were restored. The higher orders succeeded in their object, for the time, and the consequence to England of the bloody and expensive struggle, is the *National Debt*, with its interest of £30,000,000 for the working classes to pay. This is the most prominent effect of the exclusive possession of power by the Aristocracy. The ascription of this origin to the National Debt is not common, but it is just. The Lord Chancellor declared solemnly, in the last great debate, that he was positively certain whatever might have been the justice of that war in its origin, that it would have terminated in peace, on the receipt of the First Consul's letter to the King, (in 1800) if the Parliament had been Reformed.

The immense incomes which the higher orders drew from their landed estates have been doubled and trebled within the last fifty years, not through the improvements in agriculture alone, but chiefly from the operation of Poor's Rates and Corn Laws.—The former, to which every householder contributes, keeping the laborer alive upon less wages than the farmer must otherwise pay, and the latter doubling the price of agricultural produce. The two together thus enable the farm tenant to pay twice his former rent, to be spent by his master in wasteful luxury. To supply that luxury the price of food has been doubled to every man in England.

And this is not taxation, but quite independent of it. This is for the eldest brothers alone—taxation is for the use of the rest of the Aristocracy. Besides the interest of the debt, another still larger sum must be raised for the "support of the government"—that is, not for necessary expenses only, but to support as many offices, with or without duties annexed, as can be devised. There is the Privy Council, which the Ministry never consult save for form's sake—it was acknowledged a year or two ago in Parliament, that 113 members of this board receive annual salaries amounting together to £732,000, or an average £6,500 to each. This is a specimen of the *system* in operation; and only a specimen—here are only 113 provided for, and their name is legion. So a tenth of the produce of the land, at once is swooped up to endow with wealth 7000 church livings, of which the best are held by the favored class, whose curates perform the duties; while the great remainder find places in the army and navy, in the governmen at home and governmen abroad, or accept pensions openly.—And it may be well to mention here that the army of 100,000 men is kept up, not merely to supply lucrative commissions, but to protect and ensure the undisturbed working of the *system*. To this end are taxes laid—bread taxes—taxes in the East and in the West, and on all that is between, and the people must pay, for the *constitution* requires it.

With this view of the practical operation of the British constitution—so much lauded, so often held up in exulting pride to the admiration of the word besides—it is not difficult to foresee the effect of such an amendment as the late bill would have produced. A Commons' House, truly representing the opinions and interests of the people, must would devote themselves with eager energy to the task of removing the abuses and burdens under which the people are now ground to the dust. The reformation might be gradual, the changes would be wrought singly, but the sure result would be, at no distant date, the complete emancipation of the citizen. The working classes would cease to be the property, the chattels of the upper classes; the produce of each man's industry, would be left to his own enjoyment.

Sinecures, useless offices, unearned pensions, would cease to exist. The tythes of the church would be reduced to twentieths, leaving them still the richest clergy in the world. The enormous wealth of the aristocracy would come in turn; the incomes of a million to the Duke, and half a million to the Earl, would be reduced one half by the destruction of the selfish and dishonest means which produced them—by the abolition or extensive modification of the Corn Laws. And as the appetite for reform would increase with its indulgence, there can be no doubt that the National Debt would be at length attacked—that monstrous anomaly by which the future wealth of future England was mortgaged by the ruling classes to establish securely the priviledges of their "order." When the changes are effected, when the burden of taxation, direct or indirect, is reduced from £65,000,000 per anum to £20,000,000, when the exclusive posession by the upper classes of power and honors is abolished, and the path to distinction is really open to talent and virtuous exertion alone, then England may be a country for a freeman to dwell in, and to boast of. And these changes the popular party are looking to and may effect, unless indeed, passing the limit of reform they should, as it is feared by many, rush on to revolution and anarchy.

It may thus be seen how much the aristocracy have to lose, and how much the people have to gain by reform to the extent proposed. That the former will resist to the end is certain; that the latter will also persevere can hardly be doubted. If the modified measure, such as before alluded to, that will probably be introduced by a new ministry, (for Lord Grey is pledged to the present Bill) shall not at least promise the means for attaining complete reform in future, it will not satisfy the people, now thoroughly awakened. And what must be done when constitutional means, as they are called, are exhausted? That is the question, the answer to which Lord Brougham evaded in his pamphlet; nor need we attempt its solution now. It is enough to say that the Aristocracy posses the control of a powerful army, and through the influence of patronage, have numerous partisans in every rank and class of society.

The New York Gazette publishes a letter from Paris, dated Sept. 8th, from which we make the annexed extract.

"I have been somewhat interested within a few days by seeing a newly invented machine for *grinding wheat*, &c. of so simple a construction, that if the results are such as the inventor assures me they are, and I have no reason to doubt his word, because he has machines already in operation, and misstatements could be easily detected, it must, in a few years do away with the old method of grinding with stones. A machine capable of being worked by one man, grinds 40 pounds of French, (about 44 pounds of English) in an hour. The flour is bolted at the same operation, and comes out superfine flour. It is made without heating the flour in the least, which is considered to add to the quality of the flour, and to render it more fit for keeping; and he assures me it produces more flour from grinding it finer, and that the result of a trial made by the first baker in Paris, that there was a gain of 8 per cent, in the quality of bread over flour made in the ordinary way. There appears to be no doubt of its success. The inventor is now constructing a machine of *two* horse power, which, he says, will be capable of doing as much work as two pair of six feet burr stones, worked by an *eight* horse power. This will make a revolution among the millers, but revolutions in these times are of every day occrrence.

"I am going to night to see a machine said to be capable of throwing water to the height of 150 feet, by the power of *two* men. The results of the experiment I will give you in my next. Yours, &c. E. H.

LOWER CANADA.

SEVERE STORM AND EXTENSIVE DESTUCTION OF PROPERTY.

We were visited yesterday by a strong gale of wind from the eastward, which blew with great severity in the evening. Its violence would not however have done much damage if the high tides had not also occurred. The waters of the St. Lawrence rose to a greater height than they have been known to do for many years.

By far the largest proportion of the lower parts of the buildings at the north-east end of the Lower-Town and of the suburbs of St. Roch were several feet under water. The tide in fact rose in St. Peter street to near the new Commercial Chambers of Mr. Jones, the cellars of the houses to the east being all filled with water. In St. Paul street, the wooden foot paths have almost all been removed, and where fences only protected the street from the sea, it is entirely filled up and impassable from the wrecks of buildings, wharves, planks and timber.

At Mr. Taylor's ship yard the street is filled up to the deph of four or five feet, the hanger nearly overturned. From the East India wharf to this point all the wharves have been injured, and Mr. Budden's wharves, on which were piled many thousand deals belonging to H. Gowen & Co., have received much damage, and the deals estimated at 5 to 10,000 carried off.

Beyond Mr. Taylor's ship yard, Messrs. Turgeon's and Mondor and Edie's deals, on McCallum's wharf, have been in great part carried away, and the buildings, &c. &c. on the wharf injured.

Mr. Bell's large hangar has been thrown down and carried off, and the adjoining wharves and buildings are all damaged.

A great part of the materials thus sent adrift by the high seas along St. Paul street, were carried to the neighbourhood of the King's wood yard and the north-east of St. Roch. There it has accumulated in hugh heaps, and assisted in in driving five or six schooners and a number of vessels across the streets up against the fences of the wood yard or against the houses. The ship building yards of Messrs. Munn and Finch, and the property in the neighbourhood, have also much suffered, and particularly the vessel on the stocks at Mr. F's. yard

The whole of Mr. Dalkin's rope walk and the two houses at this end of it have been swept away. It was reported this morning that a woman and child had been drowned in one of those houses.

This destruction of property forms, we suppose, not much more than a three-fourths of what has taken place by the rise of the tide in hangars, houses, offices and cellars. A great deal of sugar, fish and dry goods must have received damage.

In the front parts of the Lower-Town the damage to the wharves and by water is not so considerable, although at McCallum's wharf, and generally at all the other hangars the water must have entered. At the Lower-Town landing place one small schooner was sunk and a number of boats damaged. In the Cul de Sac the damage was comparitively trifling.

We suppose that the damage done can scarcely be much below £20 or 30,000. Within six or seven years property to the amount of double or triple the necessary expense for erecting a durable pier across the mouth of the St. Charles has been allowed to be destroyed.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Mondelet presented a Petition from Horatia Gates and others, for an act of incorporation, and authorizing them to make a Canal from Lake of the Two Mountains to the foot of the Current St. Mary below Montreal; referred.

The felon's Counsel Bill was passed.

The Special Committee on the Tenders for the Printing required by the House reported.

The printing of the bills was given to Messrs. Frechette & Co.; and the other printing required by the house, to Messrs. Neilson and Cowan, according to their several offers by contract.

Mr. Lee introduced a bill to render members of the Assembly incompetent to hold any Civil Office or place of profit under the Crown, and for other purposes; second reading Saturday next.

Mr. De Witt presented a petition from merchants and others of the city and district of Montreal for a charter for a new bank in the said city, with a capital of £250,000; referred.

DOMESTIC.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

Wednesday, Nov. 23d, 1831.

Petitions presented. *Mr. Mackenzie* presented a petition from the inhabitants of Vaughan, and moved that it be referred to a committee, consisting of Messrs. Buell, Ketchum, Perry, and Shaver.

Mr. Thomson moved, in amendment, that the petition of the people of Vaughan, with all other petitions relating to the same subject, be referred to a committee of seven members, to enquire whether the grievances named in the petition did really exist, and report accordingly.

This amendment gave rise to a long discussion, when it was adopted by a majority of six.

For the amendment it was contended, that it was the most fair and impartial mode of proceeding. Against it, it was argued, that according to Parliamentary usage, as well as the propriety of the case, petitions were always referred to those who were friendly to them, and their merits discussed after such committees had reported—that to elect a committee on such petitions by *ballot* was to release members from accountability to their constituents, as their votes would be unknown, and the people could not learn whether their members voted for persons favorable to the objects of their petitions or not. When this measure was introduced on Thursday, it elicited another long discussion.

Thursday 24th.

The address to His Excellency in reply to his speech from the throne, was read a third time and passed. On the motion for its passing, considerable discussion took place upon the late act of the Imperial Parliament in regard to Free Trade.

ADDRESS of the Commons House of Assembly in reply to the Speech at the opening of the Second Session of the Eleventh Provincial Parliament.

To his Excellency SIR JOHN COLBORNE, Knight, Commander of the Most Honorable Military Order of the bath, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, Major General Commanding His Majesty's Forces therein, &c. &c. &c.

May it Please Your Excellency,

We, His Majesty's Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons of Upper Canada, in Provincial Parliament Assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for Your Gracious Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present Session, and beg leave to assure Your Excellency that we entirely concur with Your Excellency in regarding the present Session, in every respect, more convenient to the Province, for the meeting of the Legislature, than the period at which it has heretofore been usually assembled.

While we feel every confidence in the earnest desire of His Majesty's Ministers to promote the general prosperity of the Canadas, by encouraging a free Commercial intercourse on the Saint Lawrence, and increasing our Exports, yet we are persuaded that His Majesty will not fail to perceive with how much greater advantage any new regulations respecting the Trade of the Colonies might be introduced were a sufficient period allowed, previous to their taking effect, for enabling those concerned in Mercantile pursuits to guard against any changes which, though salutary in themselves, might, by their sudden introduction, prove ruinous to Commercial enterprise.

We feel constrained to state that we have viewed with unmingled regret the attempts which have been made to make alterations in the Duties on Timber, which must materially affect that branch of the Trade of the North American Colonies, and the more so as any alteration tending to diminish the amount of Tonnage at the Port of Quebec must necessarily at the same time lessen the means of transport for that increasing Emigration which proves alike beneficial to the Colony and to the Parent State: but we are, nevertheless, happy in receiving the assurance of Your Excellency that should a change or modification in the existing scale of Duties be at any time proposed, His Majesty's Ministers are so fully convinced of the importance of the North American Colonies to the strength and power of the British Empire, that they will not cease to feel that the progressive developement of our resources is an object of the greatest interest to which they can direct their attention.

We will not delay taking into our consideration the Accounts and Estimates, when laid before us by Your Excellency, and will not fail to make such provisian for the Public Service as a due sense of that important duty shall point ont.

The gracious acquiescence of His Majesty in the solicitations of this House for the indpendence of the Judges affords the strongest assurance with what confidence we may repose in tee paternal disposition of His Majesty to concur in every reasonable request of His faithful Commons, and the readiness with which we acceded to His Majesty's desire, communicated during the last Session of Parliament, that a suitable provision should be made for rendering the Judges independent of the popular branch of the Legislature, having been so graciously met on behalf of our beloved Sovereign, is an additional proof that an unsuspecting confidence on behalf of the people cannot be misplaced when reposed in a Soverign so affectionately solicitious for the welfare of His Subjects.

We shall be happy to receive any Message communicating the further instructions transmitted to Your Excellency referring to this additional proof of His Majesty's desire to promote the welfare of the Colony.

We fully concur with Your Excellency in believing that in every District much benefit has been derived from the last grant to improve the Highways, and we are deeply impressed with the urgent necessity which exists, and is annually increasing, for establishing a system which will ensure the effectual reparation of Roads and Bridges and the improvement of the principal communications of the back Townships, to the accomplishment of which important objects we will not omit to devote our best exertions—the value of which, we trust, will be materially enhanced by our local experience.

We are happy to receive the assurance of Your Excellency that the measures proposed to guide the future periodical Emigrations and the aid intended to be granted by His Majesty's Government for the encouragement of District, and Township Schools, and the advancement of purposes of Education, will gradually prepare the Colony for the reception of the Agricultural classes leaving the Parent State; and we fully participate in the hope expressed by Your Excellency, that we shall soon see this valuable description of Settlers enjoying that competence which, in this prosperous Country, is the sure reward of honesty, industry, and sobriety.

ARCHIBALD M'LEAN,
SPEAKER.

Commons House of Assembly.
November 24th, 1831.

Mr. Perry argued that the admission of United States produce, duty free, was injurious to our agricultural and commercial interests.

Mr. Mackenzie entered at large into the question, and adduced various facts to show the advantage which this measure gave the Americans over our own merchants, manufacturers and agriculturalists.

Mr. Ketchum thought that whatever promoted the interests of the British Manufacturer promoted our own interests, and argued in favour of free trade.

Mr. Bidwell was not yet prepared to say what effect these commercial regulations with the United States might eventually have upon our trade, and opposed the address as expressing a regret on a point respecting which he had not yet sufficient data to judge.

The *Attorney General* supported the address in regard to the principles of free trade, as did *Mr. Chisholm* and *Mr. Berczy*. The address was adopted by a majority of 13. Yeas, 24; Nays, 11.

Friday, Nov. 25th.

Mr. Mackenzie moved a resolution that before auditing the accounts, the legislative Council be required to lay before the House of Assembly a detailed account of their contingent expenses.

The contingent expenses of the Legislative Council amounted to a very large sum annually, and had increased fast of late years; and it was right the House should know what was done with the money. If it was applied to proper objects there could be no objection to the enquiry, but he believed it would, upon investigation, be found they had applied it to very unconstitutional purposes, and for such as could not be called contingencies.

The *Solicitor General* said it was as clear as noon day that the present resolution was part of a system that was carrying on in that house to make a rupture with the Legislative Council. Did ever any British Parliament hear of such a resolution as that now proposed to the house—that the Legislative Council should be required to give an account in detail to that house of every farthing they expend! The honorable mover of that resolution wished to know what they did with the money, he (The Solicitor General) could tell him—they buy their firewood, candles, &c. &c. with it. And, did any honourable member think that if such a resolution were sent to them (the Legislative Council) they would take any notice of it,—no they would reject it with disdain. One honourable member not far off had said a few days ago, that all money should be put under controul of the three branches of the Legislature, and so it was; it was not the husiness of that house to enquire into the contingencies of the Legislative Council; and he could see no use in spending the time of the house with such resolutions—what had been done in the house that day was not worth one farthing to the country.

Mr. Perry said it was constitutional for that house to know the manner of spending money in the Legislative Council, and to see whether their accounts were correct.—They had struck out items from their (the house of assembly's) accounts which they had no right to do; and why should not they do the same with their (the Legislative Council's) contingent accounts if they found them incorrect. Were they to sit there like bullocks in a stall and enquire into nothing—if they were not to know how the public money was expended it would be better to go back to their constituents again.

Mr. McNab was satisfied the resolution was proposed for the purpose of producing a bad feeling between that house and the Legislative Council. That was the object of some persons in the house—it had been pretty well seen last year, and the same course was pursuing this session. The Legislative Council was one branch of the government and had a right to manage their own affairs.

Mr. Bidwell did not admit it—it was not the spirit of our constitution;—it was exclusively the right of that House to say to what purposes the public money should be applied. The Legislative Council could make no alteration in a money bill—it could not pass without their concurrence, to be sure,—they might reject it, but they had no right to alter it. If they had, it would be taxation without representation. Had not the Executive refused to pass their contingencies in a former Session? ("No," from the Solicitor Genl.) Yes, they had refused to pass the items to pay for printing, reporting, &c. done for the House; and yet an increase of salary to some of their officers was entered as a contingency by the Legislative Council.—Should the guardians of the people's money be prevented from examining into these things? He (Mr. B.) did not mean to say their accounts would not stand examination, but that they should be examined.

The *Attorney General* thought the honorable member took a wrong view of the subject. Some persons would have the House believe that gross abuses were practised in the appropriation of money by the Legislative Council. Now he thought every thing in their accounts was fair and reasonable; but it would not be proper, nor decorous, nor respectful, for that House to require the Legislative Council to lay before them an account in detail of their contingent expenses—it would be an affront to ask them to do so; and the result would be, they would not do it, and so a breach would be made between the two Houses, and a dissolution of Parliament would follow.

Mr. Samson said he thought before that House complained of the contigent expenses of the Legislative Council, it would be well to look at their own. (Here the Honorable member read, from the Journals, extracts from the report of the committee on the contingencies of last year, showing those of the House of Assembly to be far greater than those of the Legislative Council.) While the Legislative Council trusted them with the disposal of the great money affairs of the Province, he thought they (the House of Assembly) might safely manage their own small concerns. He believed, with the Honorable and learned Attorney General, the effect of the resolution would be to send them all about their business.

Mr. Perry would like to know if the accounts were correct or incorrect—it was the right of that house to investigate them. The honourable and learned Solicitor General had said they had no right to do so; but he (Mr. Perry) contended they had. Another Honourable member would compare the contingencies of the legislative council with these of that house; but he should remember that they (the house of assembly) employed a number of clerks, &c. not required by the legislative council: that a large sum was paid for printing bills, resolutions, and all matters that came before the house; and consequently their expences must be greater than those of the legislative council. But if honourable members would not make the proposed inquiry, let them record their votes and let them go to the country that the people might see who they were that would stifle inquiry. Some honourable members objected to the resolution as they thought it would have the effect of sending them back to their constituents—they seemed to fear that more than any thing else, but he had no apprehensions on that subject—he was not afraid to go back to his constituents at any time.

The *Solicitor General* would advise the honourable member to have his speech printed and hung up in the house; for as it was always the same, it would save him the trouble of repeating it over so often—when he wished to speak he could point to it and say "that's my speech." (a laugh.)

Mr. Perry believed the honourable and learned Soliciton General might take a little of that advice to himself.

Mr. McNab said a few words against the resolution—it would not be reasonable to require an account of every trifle for which they paid out money, and to produce the bills from every person of whom they purchased it.

Mr. Ketchum thought the resolution not unreasonable—were he a member of the legislative council he would like to have an inquiry into the accounts—he could not think the resolution insulting.

Mr. Mackenzie denied the charge of design to make a breach with the Legislative Council—he had no design in bringing forward the resolution but a wish to do good to the province, and people of the county of York, whom he had the honour to represent. In England, every thing of this kind was known. He had brought forward the resolution at the present time, as he thought the close of the session, when every thing was hurried, a bad time to investigate accounts. Some honorable members seemed afraid to vote for the resolution lest they should be sent back to their constituents, but if they would not examine the manner in which the public money was expended, they ought to go back, (Here the honorable member read over charges in the accounts which he thought were abuses, and asked, did not these things require investigation?)—He thought there was virtue in the house yet, and that a majority would not be found to vote against the resolution. Did not honorable members promise their constituents before coming there to make such inquiries? But whether the house agree or not to the resolution, he could tell them such partiality, favouritism and abuses would not be long continued by a body who were known to be opposed to our beloved Sovereign.—He would not take up the time of the house any longer, but would ask if honorable members could not return to their homes and say they would not make inquiry?

Mr. Burwell thought that while they had a constitutional check over the Legislative Council, such a resolution was unnecessary.

The House divided on the resolution, ane the yeas and nays were taken as follows;

YEAS—Messrs Bidwell, Buell. Campbell, Cook, Duncombe, Heward, Ketchum, Lyons, Mackenzie, Perry, Randal, Roblin, Shaver, and White, 14.

NAYS—Messrs Attorney General, Berczy, Boulton, Burwell, Chisholm, Elliot, A. Fraser, R. Fraser, Jarvis, Lewis, M'Martin, M'Nab, Macon, Mount, Robinson, Samson, Shade, Solicitor General, Thomson, and Werden, 20—Majority against the resolution, 6.

THE HERALD.

Kingston, Wednesday, December 7, 1831.

Our last New-York papers furnish us no later arrivals from Europe than our last paper contained.

Our Assembly have been engaged in discussing the propriety of demanding the items of the contingent accounts of the Legislative council. We have given a short outline of the debate, and our readers can judge for themselves of the weight of the arguments used in favor and against the motion. Much discussion took place respecting several petitions from various townships in this Province, for the redress of certain grievances therein contained.

Some debate occurred on the Canada trade act of last April, some contending that it is injurious to the interests of the Province, and others on the contrary maintain it is not. This much is certain, that it has its evil as well as its good effects; but probably neither the good or evil extends so far as the opinions, the adverse parties are in the habit of setting forth in their speeches. Nothing under heavens can warrant the regulation of an interior trade, subject to taxation by any other authority but our own Legislature; except the difficulty in agreeing to a regular system with Lower Canada. For, whenever a regulation of trade, duties, or improvement has to be discussed between the parties, each one wants the settlement to be made in such a manner as will best promote the interest of their respective Province, and there again, Lower Canada having the command of the seaboard, unto which we have to resort; and also being the strongest party, we are sure in the end to have our heels tripped up be-

Public Record Office Reference C.O. 47/57

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