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1837
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Reserve

RESOLUTIONS

Intended to be proposed by

LORD JOHN RUSSELL,

IN A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

RELATIVE TO THE

AFFAIRS OF CANADA.

1837.

RESOLUTIONS

INTENDED TO BE PROPOSED BY

LORD JOHN RUSSELL,

IN A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE,

RELATIVE TO THE

AFFAIRS OF CANADA.

1.—THAT, since the 31st day of October, in the year 1832, no provision has been made by the Legislature of the Province of Lower Canada, for defraying the charges of the Administration of Justice, and for the support of the Civil Government within the said Province, and that there will, on the 10th day of April now next ensuing, be required for defraying in full the charges aforesaid to that day, the sum of 142,160*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*

2.—THAT at a Session of the Legislature of Lower Canada, holden at the City of Quebec, in the said Province, in the months of September and October 1836, the Governor of the said Province, in compliance with His Majesty's commands, recommended to the attention of the House of Assembly thereof the Estimates for the current year, and also the Accounts, showing the arrears due in respect of the Civil Government, and signified to the said House His Majesty's confidence that they would accede to the application which He had been commanded to renew for payment of the arrears due on account of the Public Service, and for the Funds necessary to carry on the Civil Government of the Province.

3.—THAT the said House of Assembly, on the 3d day of October 1836, by an Address to the Governor of the said Province, declined to vote a Supply for the purposes aforesaid, and by the said Address, after referring to a former Address of the said House to the Governor of the said Province, declared that the said House persisted, amongst other things, in the demand of an Elective Legislative Council, and in demanding the repeal of a certain Act passed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom in favour of the North American Land Company; and by the said Address the said House of Assembly further adverted to the demand made by that House of the free exercise of its control over all the branches of the Executive Government; and by the said Address the said House of Assembly further declared, that it was incumbent on them in the present conjuncture to adjourn their deliberations until His Majesty's Government should by its Acts, especially by rendering the second branch of the Legislature conformable to the wishes and wants of the People, have commenced the great work of Justice and Reform, and created a confidence which alone could crown it with success.

4.—THAT in the existing state of Lower Canada, it is inadvisable to make the Legislative Council of that Province an Elective Body; but that it is expedient that measures be adopted for securing to that branch of the Legislature a greater degree of public confidence.

5.—THAT while it is expedient to improve the composition of the Executive Council in Lower Canada, it is inadvisable to subject it to the responsibility demanded by the House of Assembly of that Province.

6.—THAT the legal title of the North American Land Company to the Land holden by the said Company, by virtue of a Grant from His Majesty, under the Public Seal of the said Province, and to the privileges conferred on the said Company by the Act for that purpose made in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign, ought to be maintained inviolate.

7.—THAT it is expedient that so soon as provision shall have been made by law to be passed by the Legislature of the said Province of Lower Canada for the discharge of Lands therein from Feudal Dues and Services, and for removing any doubts as to the incidents of the tenure of land in free and common socage in the said Province, a certain Act made and passed in the sixth year of the reign of his late Majesty King GEORGE the Fourth, commonly called "The Canada Tenures Act;" and so much of another Act passed in the third year of his said late Majesty's reign, commonly called "The Canada Trade Act," as relates to the tenures of land in the said Province, should be repealed, saving nevertheless to all persons all rights in them vested under or by virtue of the said recited Acts.

8.—That for defraying the arrears due on account of the established and customary charges of the Administration of Justice and of the Civil Government of the said Province, it is expedient that, after applying for that purpose such balance as shall, on the said Tenth day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven be in the hands of the Receiver-General of the said Province, arising from His Majesty's Hereditary, Territorial and Casual Revenue, the Governor of the said Province be empowered to issue from and out of any other part of His Majesty's Revenues in the hands of the Receiver-General of the said Province such further sums as shall be necessary to effect the payment of the before-mentioned sum of 142,160*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*

9.—THAT it is expedient that His Majesty be authorized to place at the disposal of the Legislature of the said Province the net proceeds of His Majesty's Hereditary, Territorial and Casual Revenue arising within the same, in case the said Legislature shall see fit to grant to His Majesty a Civil List for defraying the necessary charges of the Administration of Justice, and for the maintenance and unavoidable expenses of certain of the principal Offices of the Civil Government of the said Province.

10.—THAT great inconvenience has been sustained by His Majesty's subjects inhabiting the Provinces of Lower Canada and Upper Canada from the want of some adequate means for regulating and adjusting questions respecting the Trade and Commerce of the said Provinces, and divers other questions wherein the said Provinces have a common interest; and it is expedient that the Legislatures of the said Provinces respectively be authorized to make provision for the joint regulation and adjustment of such their common interests.
