COLONIAL.

UPPER CANADA.

The Legislature of Upper Canada met on the 31st ult. The following is the Speech of his Excellency Sir John Colborne on the occasion.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

The continued Emigration unprecedented as regards the industry and capital transferred to this country from the parent state, is by its beneficial influence, forcing the Province rapidly forward, and opening to you the fairest prospects. Your deliberations, therefore, cannot but render this Session of peculiar importance to the general interests of the Colony.

You will learn with satisfaction, that the population has increased not less than a fourth since the reports forwarded for your information last session; that the Emigrants, with few exceptions are fully occupied in the districts in which they are established; and that the extensive agricultural improvements, and actual cultivation, promises support and employment for our countrymen whom the current of events may induce to fix their abode in this part of the Empire.

In directing your attention to these favorable results, you will find that under existing circumstances no subject is more closely connected with the immediate prosperity of the colony or requires an immediate consideration, than the anticipated progressive increase in the number of Emigrants, that will from this season annually flow into the Canadas.

The Rideau Canal has been completed by the exertions and perseverance of the Officer who had charge of that great national work. The chief advantages of this navigation, cannot be attained while the unfinished works on the River Ottawa obstruct the passage into the St. Lawrence; but with reference to the degree of improvement,—which the colony has reached, and the interest of the parent State, it must be obvious to you who are acquainted with the districts intersected by the Rideau and adjoining Lakes, and with the avenues to eternal commerce recently opened; that the expenditure incurred in thus accelerating the developement of your resources, will produce in every respect a profitable return.

The arbitrators appointed to adjust the claims on the part of Upper Canada, to a proportion of the duties levied at Quebec, have not agreed on any satisfatory arrangements, a third arbitrator will be nominated by the King, in conformity to the British Act passed in the third year of his late Majesty's reign.

I am happy to be enabled to inform you the disease which, by the dispensation of Divine Providence, has so widely prevailed, has nearly disappeared in every district of the province At the time when the disease first extended its ravages to the Eastern districts, the Executive Government adopted such active measures as the exigency demanded, and I feel confident that you will approve of the responsibility assumed, and the arrangements made at that distressing period for the preservation of the public health.

I have ordered detailed accounts to be transmitted to you, of the sums placed by my direction, at the disposal of the magistrates on the urgent occasion to which I have alluded—you will, I have no doubt, provide for the repayment of the amount advanced.

His Majesty has acceded to a request of the House of Assembly in respect to the appropriation of the sum arising from the sale of Lands formerly set apart for Grammer Schools, and not alienated by the authority of his Majesty's Government; the accounts of the Board under whose controul the School Reserves have been hitherto placed will be delivered over to the King's Receiver General at the close of the year—In this instance of the consideration of the king in complying with the prayer of the address of the House of Assembly, you will perceive the solicitude of His Majesty to promote the wishes of the Province.

It will be for you to decide upon the practical mode of applying to the intended object, the school funds; and whether it may not be more desirable to appoint a commission to carry into effect the measures of the Legislature in regard to the distribution of the proceeds of these Lands, than to dispose of them by annual vote. Whatever course you may deem it expedient to pursue, it will be gratifying to me to concur in such enactment as may appear best calculated to secure the interests of the people.

From the Albion, November 10,

We have copied the speech of Sir John Colborne on opening the present session of the Legislature of Upper Canada, and have more than usual pleasure in doing so from the tranquil and prosperous state of which that highly favored colony has at length arrived. The people in that part of his Majesty's dominions now begin to reap the full benefit of the enlightened system of Government which now happily exerts its mild sway over them, and of that state of internal peace which the absence of demagogues, and the destruction of party spirit, has ensured. The Governor with untiring industry and devotion, is ever alive to the true interests of the country, and we believe that the man is not to be found, who denies the transcendent services, and the infinite benefits which that province has derived from his excellent administration. Long may he remain to perpetuate these blessings.

The population has increased by emigration, and by its own multiplication to the enormous extent of twenty-five per cent since last year; and every expectation is in favor of an equally rapid increase in the year to come. As a proof of the respectability of the emigrants, let us state one fact, namely, that during the present summer, three hundred thousand sovereigns have been deposited in the Bank of Upper Canada! What may not be expected from such an influx of population and capital?

Prosperity, almost equal in extent would attend the province of Lower Canada, but from the benighted spirit which there prevails among a party of politicians, who are unhappily able to paralyse all the effects of the mother country, and all the good intentions of the local government. The impediments thrown in the way of emigration and other disabilities which Lower Canada, from her local position and political system, throws in the way of the Upper Province, have induced the people of the latter colony to seek for the acquisition of Montreal, in order that they may enjoy a port of their own, unshackled by the obstancy and antiquated dogmas of the French Canadian School. Montreal herself is even desirous of the change. Gaspe, another large district in Lower Canada, which has by a course of the most illegal, unjust and tyrannical conduct ever witnessed in a civilized country, being deprived of her representative in Parliament by the House of Assembly of that province seeks to separate herself from her unnatural parent, and to unite herself to New-Brunswick. Will the party to which we allude for ever remain deaf to the voice of reason? Will they not see the folly of their course, now that their country is in a state of dismemberment? Surely the time has arrived when they should awaken from their trance, and open their eyes to the broad day light of knowledge that surrounds them.

Crown Land System in Canada.—Curious Facts. There are, we believe, according to the map of the Province of Upper Canada, about 350 Townships within its limits containing generally about sixty-six thousand acres each. Now we will deduct 3,000 acres from each township for waste lands, such as marshes, waters, &c. which will leave 63,000 acres in each township; again we will deduct two-sevenths for crown and clergy reserves, which will leave 49,000 acres to be given out to settlers: again we will deduct other two-sevenths for free grants, such as U E Loyalists, &c. which will leave 35,000 acres in each township on which fees have been, or are to be paid; but, on second thoughts, we will deduct five thousand from each township for gentlemen's grants of from 500 to 12,000 each as an exemption from fees, leaving 30,000 acres in each township. Now allowing each lot to be charged fees, to the amount of 1s per acre which is, we think, nearly a fair average, and we have £225,000, or, upwards of two millions of dollars, which have been or are still to be received, and for which our honorable land council have hitherto refused to render any account either to the House of Assembly, or, we believe, to any body else. A pretty sum indeed, this for pocket money to our Gentry of the Council, who, by the bye, have ample salaries for their services besides: and, to which may be added, about 12,000 acres of land each, and perhaps 1000 acres to each clerk in the different offices, who take good care to pick the pockets of the Locatees of a few shillings at each place where an applicant has to call, as perquisites of office, to enable young dandies to play billiards and act the coxcomb; all this, together with now and then a 1200 grant to an honorable Councillor's favorite lady, forms a pretty fair picture of the *pure* system of *Toryism* under which we live. No wonder the officials and their hirelings have no grievances to complain of. We really think the above estimate is rather below than above the true estimate. Probably the real amount is nearer three millions of dollars than two."—*C.Ad.*

ST. VINCENT.—A dissolution of the House of Assembly took place on the 15th ult. "so that," says the proclamation, "the householders and electors of the several parishes of the island shall have an opportunity of exercising their elective franchise." On the day previous to the dissolution, His Excellency the Governor, Sir George Fitzgerald Hill, sent down to the House of Assembly two bills—the Police and the Tonnage Duty Bills—"With re-