

considerable portion of the emigration from Europe to this Continent.

It affords me much gratification to be enabled to inform you, that recent advices from England indicate a marked improvement in the value of Canadian securities in the British market. Your deliberations will, I feel satisfied, have a tendency to encourage this reviving confidence.

I am very sensible of the great importance to these Colonies of placing the trade between the British North American Provinces on the most unrestricted footing. I have been in communication during the recess, upon this subject, with the Lieutenant-Governors of *Nova Scotia*, *New Brunswick*, and *Prince Edward Island*, and with the Governor of Newfoundland. I recommend to your consideration the expediency of giving such powers to this Government, as may enable it to meet the advances of the Sister Colonies in a liberal spirit.

The Act passed last Session for the establishment of reciprocal free trade between *Canada* and the *United States* in certain articles the natural products of each, has not yet come into operation. I am informed that a corresponding measure is now under the consideration of the Congress of the *United States*.

By an Act passed during the last Session of the Imperial Parliament the entire controul of the internal Posts in British North America is vested in the Provincial Authorities. Whatever further action on the part of the Canadian Legislature may be necessary in order to secure for the inhabitants of these Provinces the benefits of a cheap and uniform postage rate, you will, I feel confident, be prepared to adopt.

The expediency of effecting an increase in the Parliamentary Representation of the Province will probably again engage your attention.

A measure will be submitted for your consideration founded on the Report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the conduct, discipline and management, of the Provincial Penitentiary. The increasing wealth and population of the Province, and the growing aversion to capital punishment, render it highly important that the system of discipline established in the Provincial

Penitentiary and Gaols should be made as far as possible effectual for the prevention of crime and the reformation of offenders.

I shall lay before you communications from Her Majesty's Commissioners for the promotion of the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations, to be held in London in 1851, which have been transmitted to me by the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies. I venture to express the hope that Canadian industry and produce will be fittingly represented on that interesting occasion.

In pursuance of the Act of last Session, the practice and proceedings in the Court of Chancery in *Upper Canada* have been placed upon an improved footing, calculated to facilitate the business of the Court, and lessen expense to suitors. I shall direct copies of the rules which have been promulgated for this purpose to be laid before you.

I would recommend as of analogous and perhaps even equal importance, the consideration of the jurisdiction and practice of the Inferior Courts in that part of the Province, with a view to the extension of their sphere of usefulness, and the lessening as much as possible the expense of litigation.

The regulation of Municipalities, and the construction of Gaols and Court Houses in *Lower Canada*, and the laws for the selection and return of Jurors, and those for the Assessment of property for local purposes in *Upper Canada* are among the subjects which will doubtless engage your attention.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,*

I shall direct the public accounts with the estimates for the year to be laid before you.

I recommend to your attention an enquiry into the Revenue and Expenditure of the Province.

I rely on your readiness to grant the supplies which are necessary for the public service, and for the maintenance of the Provincial credit.

*Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,*

I have deemed it to be my duty in the exercise