

ship said he could not witness the closing labours of this final session of the Special Council without offering the thanks of the Sovereign whom he represented, and his own sincere acknowledgments for the zeal, punctuality, and attention throughout evinced in the performance of their important duties, and the personal sacrifices they had made to that end. Lord Sydenham then observed, that having been, as a member of the Ministry, one of those who were principally instrumental in the adoption of the constitution under which the Special Council had sat, he had watched the progress of that body with the deepest interest in their success. The wish of Her Majesty's Government had been that the members should be drawn as much as possible from different parts of the Province so as to represent its general interests. He had not deemed it expedient upon his arrival to make a change in its constituent parts as formed by Sir John Colborne, deeming it, as he still deemed it, a fair and adequate representation of the various sections of the Province. Under these circumstances he had thought himself called upon to do no more than make some additions to the Council calculated to render more prompt and efficient the course of its proceedings. His Lordship declared that in his opinion much good had resulted from the labours of the Special Council. Although, conformably to the principles he was known to possess, he was a warm advocate of representative and constitutional government, and therefore most sincerely rejoiced that the time had arrived when a return to it was deemed practicable, and when an end might be put to the arbitrary power conferred by the Act suspending the constitution in Lower Canada, yet he could not withhold his opinion that more beneficial measures had emanated from the Council, than any representative body in this Province had ever produced in the same space of time. Knowing as he did the anxious care with which every measure had been framed and examined in its most minute provisions during its passage through the Council, and the constitutional spirit that had been always present at their deliberations, and entertaining as he did the well-considered belief that their measures were calculated to secure and advance the rights and interests of the Province, he would not flinch from assuming the responsibility of any and every Ordinance they had passed. He would earnestly support and vindicate both in private and in public these measures; and it was pleasing to him, in looking back, to be able to say that upon no occasion had he seen anything but fair and open discussion, and the independent exercise of a free judgment amongst the members of the Council. His Lordship concluded by assuring them in all sincerity that there was no one individual at the Board with whom he would not gladly co-operate in the public interest on any future occasion.

"These sentiments, we understand, were impressively delivered, and all present felt gratified by the spirit of kindness and courtesy in which they were conceived and expressed. His Lordship at the conclusion left his place and went round and very cordially shook hands with every member of the Board."

The Legislature of New Brunswick was assembled on the 20th of January by His Excellency Sir John Harvey. It appears by the report of the Finance Committee that the expenditure and appropriations for the year 1840, amounted to about £143,000, while the gross income of the year was only £99,871 9s. 8d. shewing a deficiency of above £43,000. In accounting for this it is stated that the difficulties with the State of Maine, and the extensive fires in the city of St. John, have caused heavy drains upon the public purse which will not again occur. The committee say: "It is certainly a matter of high satisfaction that the Province is still unembarrassed, and that the resources have hitherto been such as to meet all those heavy expenses," the deficiency having been fully met.

It is stated that Sir John Harvey is about to be relieved from the government of New Brunswick, and be succeeded by Lieut. Col. Sir William Colebrook, Governor of the Leeward Islands.

The *civil posse* kept by Maine on the Aroostook and Fish Rivers have been discharged, and in their place Maine and Massachusetts have appointed a Mr. Ingersoll to look after the trespassers on the disputed territory. He is said to be a very suitable person for the duty, uniting firmness with conciliatory manners, and being personally acquainted with nearly all the inhabitants on both sides of the lines in that district. This arrangement is therefore favourable to the preservation of peace in that quarter.

The Legislature of Nova Scotia was assembled by His Excellency Viscount Falkland on the 3d of February. The Hon. Joseph Howe was chosen Speaker of the Assembly. A discussion afterwards arose on the propriety of his holding the Speakership with his seat in the Executive Council, but the House refused to disturb the arrangement. The House has since then declined giving the initiative of all money votes to the Executive.

The Assembly of Prince Edward Island passed a resolution to appropriate the sum of £200,