

Should you, concurring with the other colonial legislatures, approve the provisions of the treaty as adapted in your judgments to promote the commercial, agricultural, and general interests of this province, I shall gladly concur in any measure which you may pass to give them effect here.

I have felt it my duty to summon you to meet at an earlier period than usual, but a regard for the public welfare will, I am persuaded, induce you cheerfully to submit to personal inconvenience.

Reports of commissioners entrusted with the conduct of public works will be laid before you, and I trust that the monies placed by the legislature at their disposal will be found to have been judiciously expended.

I announce with pleasure a considerable increase of revenue.

A bountiful harvest has rewarded the labors of the husbandman—the fisheries, though not altogether successful, have been, on the whole, remunerative—and many indications are afforded of a prosperous condition of the people.

Our fervent gratitude is due to the Almighty for exemption from an epidemic that produced great mortality in our sister colonies, and for the blessings of contentment and peace vouchsafed to us.

Availing myself of your liberal grant, I have imported into the province stock selected in accordance with your suggestions, and as the object thus contemplated by you is of great public interest, I recommend its further advancement by such means as you may, in the present session, think proper to adopt.

A prominent event of the year has been the “provincial exhibition,” manifesting the capabilities of the country and furnishing by its gratifying success a powerful stimulus to public spirit and industrial energies.

Education, though always hitherto supported by large grants, is still defective. Your wisdom will, I hope, be enabled to devise such improvement of the existing system as the resources of the province will warrant and public opinion will sustain.

A correspondence which has taken place during the recess, in conformity with your concurrent resolutions, on the subject of the mines and minerals of Nova Scotia, will be submitted for your consideration.

I regret to inform you that during my absence from Halifax on a tour of duty to the west, government house was so materially injured by fire that it has ever since been uninhabitable. This will, I fear, involve the necessity of considerable expense to the province.

To the rear admiral commanding on this station our thanks are due, for the promptitude and zeal with which he invariably co-operated with my government in the public service of protection of the fisheries.

*Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the house of assembly :*

The public accounts, with the estimate for the ensuing year, will be submitted for your inspection with the least possible delay.

*Mr. President and honorable gentlemen of the legislative council :*

*Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the house of assembly :*

A measure will be submitted to you for further simplifying and improving the practice of the courts of common law, and for introducing changes in the law of evidence, approved by the experience of the parent state.

Reports of the supervisors of great roads, and of the wardens of the river fisheries, will be laid before you.

You may rely on my cordial co-operation with your endeavours to promote every object that involves the public interests and the happiness of the people.

Our beloved sovereign, in conjunction with her allies, is engaged in a righteous but sanguinary war with the emperor of the Russias ; and I feel the strongest assurance that in the sufferings and sorrows which its ravages have brought home to thousands of British hearths, you and the loyal people whom you represent will sincerely and deeply sympathize.

Mr,