

I trust that in the course of this session you will take into consideration the whole financial accounts which have been furnished at your request during the last two years; I have given, and am still disposed to give every facility in my power to enable you to examine and bring these long standing accounts to a clear and final arrangement: and I must say that I see little difficulty in accomplishing the task.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

I am convinced that every member of this legislature must regret that the progress of the public interests for some years past, has been so materially interrupted. I will not therefore on this occasion dwell upon past events; the remedy lies in your hands, and to you I leave it with my most earnest recommendation, that you will seriously consider the incalculable injuries, which have been, and must continue to be accumulated on the province, while the Executive branch of the constitution remains disabled from exercising its just and legitimate and most useful powers.

Many subjects of the greatest moment demand your consideration, and I shall communicate with you upon them in detail, most anxiously hoping to find you assembled in that spirit of moderation and of honourable zeal which alone can lead to a full and faithful discharge of your duties to your sovereign and your country.⁴⁰

The House of Assembly of Lower Canada, considering themselves with great propriety, as a counterpart in this country of the Commons' House in England, endeavour to follow, as nearly as possible, the usages, customs, and forms of proceeding, etc. of their august prototype. They are of course equally tenacious of their privileges; and therefore, as usual, on their return from the Legislative Council chamber, before proceeding to take notice of the governor's speech, after Mr. Speaker had reported that the House had been in the Legislative Council chamber, when His Excellency had been pleased to approve the choice they had made of him to be their Speaker, and that His Excellency had been pleased to say he would put the most favourable construction upon his words and actions, (free liberty of speech and debate being claimed on those occasions by the speaker for the assembly,) they caused;

A bill, for the better regulation of the fisheries in the inferior district of Gaspé to be presented to the House, and read a first time.

The principle upon which such a mode is always adopted, it may be necessary to explain to some of my readers, is, that, by proceeding forthwith to business of their own, the house assert their right, when assembled, to carry on the public business committed to them, without reference to, or requiring the sanc-