

the Representative of our beneficent Sovereign, having the public good for its sole and single object, cannot fail of receiving a full, a fair, and respectful degree of consideration.

I am happy in being enabled to offer you my congratulations upon the state of the Provincial Revenues arising as well from Colonial Impost and from Imperial Duties as from the increased and increasing value of the Crown Estate—a source of public income which, if wisely secured to the Provincial control, must, I conceive, have the effect, at no remote period, of placing the resources of Nova-Scotia upon the most satisfactory footing as respects the future, and enable the Province at once to relieve itself from all claims as regards the past.

On this important subject I am happy to inform you that I am authorised by Her Majesty to tender to you a distinct proposition, which shall be communicated to you by Message, and I shall be happy to enter into full communications with you upon it whenever you may be prepared to engage in them. It will be seen that the proposition for the surrender to the Colony of the Revenues of the Crown in exchange for a Civil List is based upon proposals in which leading individuals of both parties in this Assembly formerly concurred.

I have observed with great pleasure the liberal appropriations which have at all times been made in this Province for the construction and repairs of Roads and Bridges, as well as for Educational purposes, and to meet the exigencies of the Poor; this I regard as a solid and satisfactory ground of congratulation, and the only suggestion which I could at present offer regards the mode of the expenditure of those Grants, and whether, as respects Roads and Bridges, the system adopted in some of the sister Colonies, of conducting these important duties under the superintendence of General Road Inspectors or Supervisors, under whose directions all Road Contracts are made the subject of public competition, might not be worthy of your consideration; and, with reference to Education, to repeat here what I have so often urged elsewhere, viz. the great advantages that would attend the endowment of a Normal School for the instruction of Teachers, for which I understand peculiar facilities to exist in this Province.

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :*

I have directed that a detailed account of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Colonial Revenues, from whatever source derived, be laid before you; and I entertain no doubt that suitable provision will be made by you for the demands of the public service. I avail myself of this occasion to inform you that, owing to circumstances connected with the partial failure of the Potato Crops in certain parts of the Province, I have felt it to consist with my duty, as well towards the sufferers as yourselves, to assume the responsibility of administering such relief to these sufferers from this cause, as well settlers as Indians, as appeared to me to be called for by the reports laid before me, and as I believed that you would have afforded if in Session; it will rest with you to relieve me from the responsibility (if you should see fit to do so) which I have not hesitated in assuming, after the examination of the papers which will be laid before you.

*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :*

This Province has stood too prominent in the encouragement which it has at all times given to Agricultural improvements to warrant any allusions to this subject on my part with any other object than to record or rather to renew the declaration of an opinion which I have so often expressed, that in the cultivation of the soil far before any other sources of industry, consist the best interests of the Timber growing Colonies of British North America. That in many parts of Nova Scotia this pursuit must necessarily be regarded as merely auxiliary to its fisheries, in no respect