

WEDNESDAY, 14th March, 1866.

PRESENT:

THE HON.

Mr. Saunders sitting as President.

*Mr. Botsford,
" Minchin,
" Davidson,
" Wark,
" Ryan,
" Rice,
" Mitchell.*

*Mr. Chandler,
" Harrison,
" Odell,
" Steeves,
" Hamilton,
" Perley,
" Ferguson.*

PRAYERS.

On motion—

The House was put into Committee of the whole to take into consideration the Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Legislature.

The Honorable Mr. Botsford took the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee had gone through the said Address, had made an amendment thereto, and recommended the same, as amended, to the adoption of the House; which proposed Address was as follows, viz:—

To His Excellency The Honorable ARTHUR HAMILTON GORDON, C.M.G., Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.

The Humble Address of Her Majesty's Legislative Council in General Assembly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of New Brunswick, thank Your Excellency for the Speech at the opening of the present Session, and for the satisfaction you express at again meeting us in Parliament assembled; and we hail with peculiar gratification the lively interest taken by the Imperial Government in the Commercial prosperity

of these Dependencies of the British Crown, as recently evinced by summoning a Council at Quebec composed of Delegates from the various British North American Colonies, for the purpose of affording assistance to Her Majesty's Government in the negotiation of Commercial Treaties.

We are gratified to learn that Your Excellency has, on the invitation of the Government of Canada, and in concert with Her Majesty's Minister at Washington and Delegates from Nova Scotia, endeavoured to prolong the Treaty existing between Her Majesty and the United States of America for the reciprocal advantages of Trade; and while we regret to find that these united efforts have proved unsuccessful, and that the Treaty will shortly expire under a notice to that effect emanating from the United States Government, it is yet satisfactory to be informed that negotiations on this subject may not be considered as permanently abandoned, and that should they be renewed, a trust is entertained that they may be productive of satisfactory results. Any revision of the Revenue Laws which these circumstances may render necessary, will receive our careful consideration, together with such Papers in connection with the Delegation to the West Indies and certain States of South America, as Your Excellency may be pleased to lay before us.