

Friday, 16th January, 1835.

SIR JOHN COLBORNE, K. C. B. *Lieutenant Governor.*

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: and  
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

You have the satisfaction of being convened, to promote by your counsels the welfare of the people, at a period when the increased activity with which every description of improvement proceeds throughout the Province assures you, that the general interests of the Colony are greatly prospering. The Speech.

The exertion, perseverance and spirit of enterprise, so conspicuous in each District; and the independence and comfort which the more industrious portion of your population has speedily attained, are obviously the early advantages resulting from the flow of Emigration to the Province, and from the useful public works which have been accomplished, under the direction of the Parent State, and of the Legislature of this Country.

These considerations will, doubtless, chiefly engage your attention, in deciding on the means that can be prudently applied to encourage the present ardor for improvement, and to carry into effect the undertakings which have been projected, to connect more extensively the navigable waters of some of the most flourishing Districts.

The completion of the Grenville Canal, and other Public Works on the River Ottawa, has brought the Rideau Navigation fully into operation.

The internal commerce carried on by the Welland Canal increases, and will be extended by the improved communications in progress on the Grand River.

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

I have directed to be laid before you the Annual Accounts; the Estimates of the amount required for the Public Service of the current year; and statements of the Casual and Territorial Revenue.

With these documents will be transmitted for your examination detailed accounts of the disbursements authorised during the prevalence of the Disease, which, by the dispensation of Divine Providence, again afflicted the Province.

I entertain no doubt, that you will think it right to provide for the repayment of the sums which have been distributed by the Boards of Health.

*Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen:*

The Laws which are about to expire will demand your attention.

The several Acts passed by the Provincial Legislature to protect the interests of individuals, in cases in which the Local Tribunals could not interpose, have suggested to His Majesty's Government the propriety of recommending such a revision to be made of your legal institutions, as will prevent a delay in the administration of Justice, in similar instances, which might constantly occur.

I shall have occasion to communicate with you by Message on this subject; and to convey to you the views of His Majesty's Government relative to the arrangements proposed for the re-organization of the Post Office in these Colonies.

The assurances which I received from the Inhabitants of this Province, in the course of the past year, expressive of their attachment to their Sovereign, and which it became my duty to forward to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, have afforded to His Majesty the highest gratification.

These further proofs of the devoted loyalty of the people of the Province, and of their sincere and earnest desire to maintain and perpetuate the connection with the great Empire, of which they form an important part, will, I am confident, be duly appreciated by you, and by all our countrymen, who intend to fix their abode in this favored land.