

**JOURNAL**  
OF THE  
**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**  
OF  
**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.**

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*Third Session of the Sixteenth General Assembly.*

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**TUESDAY, March 4, 1845.**

**T**HE House having, by several Proclamations, been prorogued until this day, then to meet for the dispatch of business:

And being met—

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by Henry Palmer, Esquire, Usher of the Black Rod:

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor commands the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker and the House went up to attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber—and being returned,

Mr. Speaker reported, that when the House did attend His Excellency this day in the Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Legislature, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, which was read by the Clerk, and is as followeth:

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

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

On your return to the performance of your Legislative duties, I have to announce to you the birth of another British Prince; and I am satisfied that you

will rejoice with me in every addition which it may please Providence to make to the happiness of our august Sovereign, and his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

It is imperative upon me to call your immediate and deepest attention to the very inadequate means adopted in this Island for the prevention of smuggling, and the probable loss sustained by the Revenue in consequence: this inefficiency, combined with existing duties, offers an encouragement to the illicit trader, and throws an additional burden upon those who legally follow their Mercantile avocations. Unhappily connected with this subject, I must bring to your notice the melancholy death of the late George Tanton, as also the case of Isaac Scales, severely wounded at the same time—both men being in the execution of the laws. I recommend the settlement of a pension upon the Widow of the former, and that a suitable compensation be made for the injuries sustained by the latter.

I think the present practice, with regard to the method of paying for work done by contract upon the Roads and Bridges, very objectionable, and I am informed that it is much complained of by the contractors; a total revision in this department of the Public works seems to me quite called for, in justice to those who undertake to perform them.

The irregularity with which fines, on conviction before Magistrates, are levied, and those which accrue to the Revenue are ascertained, is a subject that requires revision and regulation; the general improvement in the administration of Justice attendant upon the establishment of County Quarter Ses-