

" Mr. President and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council,

" Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

" I was induced, after due consideration, to defer meeting you in General Assembly till now, in order to prevent, as much as possible, the business of the Supreme Court from interfering with your important deliberations in the ensuing Session.

" I shall direct to be laid before you copies of the Official Despatches, which communicated the mournful tidings of the demise of our late most gracious and lamented Sovereign, and the auspicious accession of His present most excellent Majesty, King WILLIAM THE FOURTH, to the throne of His ancestors.

" With sincere satisfaction and a deep sense of gratitude to the Author and Giver of all good, am I enabled to congratulate you on the prosperous and improving condition of the Province. By the Divine Blessing, the late fine season has proved remarkably favourable to agricultural pursuits, and the greatly increased enterprise and exertions of the people have, in general, been rewarded with most bountiful returns ; which will have the happy effect considerably to diminish the importation of foreign supplies for the consumption of the inhabitants. The gradual but steady improvement in the Commerce and Staple Trade of the Province, as indicated by the present state of Revenue, is also a most pleasing circumstance.

" Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

" I shall order to be laid before you, without delay, the Treasurer's Accounts and other documents therewith connected, which, I am happy to acquaint you, will be found highly gratifying ; the Revenue of last year being more productive than had been anticipated, and largely exceeding that of the former. It will not, however, be prudent to calculate on the permanency of this prosperous degree of the Provincial Income ; for, without apprehending the adoption of any other measures affecting the Trade of the Northern Colonies, the commercial arrangement recently concluded with the Government of the United States, must have an immediate tendency greatly to lessen the amount of Revenue to be collected in this Province, under the Acts of Parliament.

" I rely with confidence on your making the usual provision for the Ordinary Services, and for such other objects of general utility as may be recommended to your favourable consideration.

" Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Council,

" Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

" Upon the perusal of the documents to be submitted for your consideration, concerning the Grants of last Session for additional Light-Houses, you will perceive that, by accurate surveys and estimates, it has been ascertained that the sums yet appropriated by Lower Canada and this Province, for the erection of the contemplated Light-House on Saint Paul's Island, are quite inadequate for that service. It has therefore been considered advisable, in concurrence with the opinion of the late Governor General, His Excellency Sir James Kempt, to defer the further prosecution