

in his paper an account of the proceedings of the Assembly, was arrested for so doing by the Sergeant-at-Arms; he was, however, after two days confinement, released on making an ample apology. On 15th March, the Assembly ordered the arrest of Isaac Tod, of the city of Montreal, for having published, and of Edward Edwards, for having printed, the said libel. No measures were, however, taken to carry the order into effect, and the matter was then suffered to drop.—Nathaniel Taylor, Deputy Secretary, and Registrar of the Province of Lower Canada, died at Quebec, on 4th April.—The session of the Lower Canada Parliament closed on 19th April. Seven Acts were passed, and one was reserved for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure thereon. Four of the seven Acts were to continue existing laws, and of the remaining three, one was to authorize further expenditure for the improvement of the navigation between Montreal and Lake St. Francis. The reserved Act was to authorize the erection of a bridge over the river L'Assomption.—*Le Canadien*, the first newspaper printed in the French language in Canada, appeared in November. February 15th.—Lieutenant-General William Gardiner, commanding the forces in Nova Scotia, died at Halifax, and was buried at St. Paul's church in that city.—The Nova Scotia Assembly was dissolved on 28th May, and writs for a new election, returnable on 7th August, were issued. On 18th November the new Assembly (first session of the ninth General Assembly) met. Mr. William Cottnam Tonge, member for the county of Hants, was elected Speaker. The House attended the Lieutenant-Governor on the 19th with their Speaker elect, who was presented to His Excellency by Mr. Northup. Sir John informed them that he did not

approve of the choice they had made, and desired them to return and make another, and to present the member chosen for his approbation on the day following at one o'clock. The Assembly accordingly withdrew, and on the 20th proceeded to choose another Speaker. Mr. Lewis Morris Wilkins, member for Lunenburg, was then elected and approved by His Excellency, who opened the session with a speech in which he congratulated the Assembly upon the victories obtained by British forces by sea and land, and upon the general prosperity of the Province. The House of Assembly presented an address to the Lieutenant-Governor in reply to the speech from the throne, on 22nd November, in which allusion was made to the rejection of Mr. Tonge as Speaker in the following terms:—"While we lament that your Excellency has been pleased to exercise a branch of His Majesty's prerogative, long unused in Great Britain, and without precedent in this Province, we beg leave to assure your Excellency that we shall not fail to cultivate assiduously a good understanding between the different branches of the legislature, and to prosecute with diligence the business of the session." No further reference appears to have been made to the subject.

**1807.** The first session of the fourth Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada was opened by Lieutenant-Governor Francis Gore, at York, on Monday, 2nd February. The session was a short but busy one. The prorogation took place on the 10th March. Of the twelve Acts which were passed, the most important was an Act to establish Public Schools in each and every district of the Province. These schools were placed under the management of five trustees in each district, who were to be appointed by the Lieutenant-