

Speeches from the Throne, &c.

(Sir GEORGE PREVOST, Governor, 1812.)

“ Provincial Parliament assembled, beg leave to
 “ return your Excellency our sincere thanks for your
 “ Speech from the Throne.

“ Your Excellency's appointment to be Governor
 “ in Chief of the British American Provinces, by the
 “ Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of
 “ His Majesty, we have learnt with perfect satisfac-
 “ tion, and we beg leave to assure your Excellency,
 “ that we consider it as a great proof of His Royal
 “ Highness peculiar attention and solicitude for the
 “ welfare and protection of His Majesty's subjects in
 “ this part of the Empire, that he has been thus gra-
 “ ciously pleased to commit to your Excellency, the
 “ Government in Chief of British America, and the
 “ Administration of the Government of this Province
 “ in particular.

“ With your Excellency we deeply lament the pre-
 “ sent situation of our Sovereign, most truly venerable
 “ and most affectionately beloved by all classes of his
 “ afflicted subjects, wherever dispersed ; But under
 “ the pressure of this severe calamity, with hearts
 “ filled with gratitude towards His Majesty, for the
 “ innumerable instances which we have experienced
 “ of that paternal care, which he was used most gra-
 “ ciously to extend to every part of His Dominions,
 “ we thankfully recognize and acknowledge a con-
 “ tinuation of the same paternal care in the conduct
 “ of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

“ The brilliant achievements which have taken
 “ place in the deliverance of Portugal, and the rescue
 “ of Spain from the Tyranny of the Chief Ruler in
 “ France, are subjects of pride and satisfaction, in
 “ which we warmly participate with your Excellency,
 “ acknowledging with humble thankfulness in these
 “ events, the interposition of the Great Sovereign of
 “ the universe, who has thus permitted British valour
 “ to be the means of dispensing his benefits to those
 “ unhappy nations.

“ The astonishing changes which marked the age
 “ in which we live, have had no influence either upon
 “ the tranquillity, or upon the gratitude or loyalty of
 “ His Majesty's Canadian subjects. We have wit-
 “ nessed the awful scenes which desolate Europe, as
 “ distant spectators ; but we have viewed them as
 “ scenes, in which we were deeply concerned, and
 “ contemplated them as lessons of instruction. We
 “ have felt that the political existence of Great Bri-
 “ tain has been threatened by the fate of surrounding
 “ Nations ; but having also felt that our own welfare
 “ depended upon us, we have at all times been ready,
 “ and we are now ready to sustain that portion of the
 “ evils which the great contest in which she is engag-
 “ ed, and the chance of war may throw upon us, as
 “ becomes the character of British Subjects, and the
 “ obligations of a favoured people. We are aware of
 “ the important duties which the storm that now seems
 “ bending its course towards this, hitherto peaceful
 “ and happy region, may require ; and we are pre-
 “ pared to discharge them with no common energy,
 “ and with no ordinary exercise of that loyalty which
 “ we profess.

“ We have the fullest conviction that, by the Prince
 “ Regent, on the behalf of His Majesty, every wise
 “ and proper measure will be pursued to terminate
 “ amicably, the differences which now subsist between

“ réunis en Parlement Provincial, prions Votre
 “ Excellence, de recevoir nos Remercimens sincères
 “ de Sa Harangue du Trône.

“ Nous avons appris avec une satisfaction parfaite,
 “ que le Prince Régent, pour et au Nom de Sa Ma-
 “ jesté, avoit nommé Votre Excellence au Gouverne-
 “ ment en Chef des Provinces Britanniques en Amé-
 “ rique, et nous prenons la liberté d'assurer Votre
 “ Excellence, que nous regardons Sa nomination de
 “ Gouverneur en Chef de l'Amérique Britannique, et
 “ particulièrement d'Administrateur du Gouverne-
 “ ment de cette Province, comme une grande preuve
 “ de l'attention et de la sollicitude particulières de
 “ Son Altesse Royale, pour le bien-être et la protec-
 “ tion des Sujets de Sa Majesté, dans cette partie de
 “ l'Empire.

“ Nous déplorons, extrêmement avec Votre Excel-
 “ lence, la situation actuelle de notre Souverain vrai-
 “ ment vénérable et chéri de toutes les classes de Ses
 “ sujets, que ce malheur afflige, en quelque partie du
 “ monde qu'ils se trouvent dispersés ; mais au milieu
 “ de la douleur que nous cause cette dure calamité,
 “ le cœur plein de reconnaissance envers Sa Majesté,
 “ pour les preuves innombrables que nous avons re-
 “ çues de ce soin paternel, qu'elle a toujours daigné
 “ étendre sur toutes les parties de Ses Domaines, Nous
 “ retrouvons avec gratitude, une continuation de ce
 “ même soin paternel dans la conduite de Son Altesse
 “ Royale le Prince Régent.

“ Les exploits éclatans qui ont eu lieu dans la dé-
 “ livrance du Portugal, et pour celle de l'Espagne, de
 “ la Tyrannie du Chef qui domine la France, sont
 “ des sujets d'orgueil et de satisfaction auxquels
 “ nous participons cordialement avec Votre Excel-
 “ lence, et nous reconnaissons, avec une humble gra-
 “ titude, dans ces évènements, l'entremise du Grand
 “ Souverain de l'Univers, qui a permis que la valeur
 “ Britannique servit à répandre Ses bienfaits sur ces
 “ Nations infortunées.

“ Les changemens étonnans qui distinguent le
 “ Siècle dans lequel nous vivons, n'ont influé ni sur
 “ la tranquillité, ni sur la reconnaissance ou la loyau-
 “ té des Sujets Canadiens de Sa Majesté. Nous
 “ avons été Spectateurs éloignés des scènes effrayantes
 “ qui désolent l'Europe, mais nous les avons regardés
 “ comme des Scènes dans lesquelles nous étions for-
 “ tement intéressés, et elles ont été pour nous une
 “ leçon instructive. Nous avons senti que l'existence
 “ politique de la Grande-Bretagne a été menacée
 “ par le sort des Nations qui l'environnent, mais ayant
 “ senti aussi que notre bonheur dépendoit du sien,
 “ nous avons toujours été et nous sommes encore
 “ prêts à supporter d'une manière digne du Caractère
 “ de Sujets Britanniques, et d'après les obligations d'un
 “ peuple favorisé, cette portion de malheurs que la
 “ grande contestation dans laquelle elle est engagée,
 “ et les évènements de la Guerre peuvent répandre
 “ sur nous. Nous connaissons les devoirs importants
 “ que peut nous imposer la tempête qui semble main-
 “ tenant diriger sa course vers cette Région jusqu'à
 “ présent si heureuse et si tranquille, et nous sommes
 “ disposés à nous acquitter avec une énergie peu
 “ commune, et la loyauté peu ordinaire que nous pro-
 “ fessons.

“ Nous sommes pleinement convaincus que le
 “ Prince Régent, au nom de Sa Majesté, emploiera
 “ tous les moyens les plus sages et convenables pour
 “ terminer à l'amiable les différends qui existent ac-