

Excellency's approbation and confirmation of the choice of their speaker, had been given, they were addressed from the throne, in the following speech.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and  
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"Since I last met you here, the whole system of the navigation laws with the general circumstances of British and colonial commerce have been brought under the consideration of the Imperial Parliament, and two acts have, in consequence, been passed, materially affecting the trade of this province by sea.

Another act has also been passed regulating our trade with the United States of America, and our intercourse with Upper Canada, and providing for an adjustment of the differences subsisting between the two provinces. I have ordered copies of these three acts to be laid before you.

I am commanded to inform you that His Majesty's ministers proposed to Parliament certain alterations in the act 31st Geo. III. cap. 31, principally with a view to unite into one, the two Legislatures of Upper and Lower Canada, but this measure was withdrawn and postponed to the next session, in order to afford an opportunity of ascertaining the sentiments of the people of these provinces upon it.

I have no doubt you will give your early attention to a subject of such general importance, and I have only to express my hope that your deliberations upon it will be marked by that moderation which is best calculated to give weight and effect to such representations as you may see fit to make.

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

No bill of appropriation having passed the last session to enable me to meet the expenses of the civil government, you must be aware of the difficulties and embarrassments thereby thrown upon me.—I have endeavoured as much as I could, to avert the great inconvenience to the public, which I stated in my message to you of the 8th February last, by paying up the usual established expenses for the half year then current, but I have not felt myself justified in doing so beyond that period, and there consequently remains a very considerable arrear due to several of the public servants.

I shall direct a full statement of the course I have adopted, together with accounts of the receipt and expenditure for the year, to be laid before you, and I shall submit to you, by estimate, the probable expense, in this year, of these local establishments and objects of public charge, for which, according to the principles stated to you in that message, it is my duty to call upon you to provide.\*

*For this message, which it is very important to keep in view, see the letter of CARDO, in Free Press, No. 16.*