

Your Excellency for the Gracious Speech with which Your Excellency has been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature.

We hear with pleasure of the gratification afforded to Her Most Gracious Majesty by the loyal congratulations of Her Subjects in this ancient Dependency of the British Crown, upon the success of Her Majesty's Arms and those of Her brave Allies, in the war in which the resources of the United Kingdom and the spirit of its people are alike engaged; we, at the same time, beg to thank Your Excellency for the regard manifested by Your Excellency towards the Inhabitants of this colony, in conveying to Her Majesty's Government your testimony to the heartiness and enthusiasm with which these sentiments were offered for Her Majesty's acceptance.

We are happy to learn from Your Excellency that ample proof has been afforded of the benefits which the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States, and its subsidiary enactments, are calculated to confer upon the Export Trade of the colony, by the comparative increase in the quantity of our staple produce, which has lately found a market in the Ports of the Union—notwithstanding the neutralizing effects referred to by Your Excellency.

We concur with Your Excellency in the opinion, that, when these unfavourable circumstances shall have ceased to operate, we may confidently hope that the advantages of the Treaty will become permanent and more generally diffused, not only in the promotion of the interests of Commerce and Capital, but in the amelioration of the condition of the Fishermen, and other industrial classes of the population of this Colony.

We thank Your Excellency for the promise to lay before us a communication received from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, placing you in possession of the Act of the United States by which the provisions of the Treaty are declared to be in force in that country.

It is gratifying to learn that the efforts of the Government have been directed to a reduction of the heavy burthen which, for many years past, has been entailed upon the Public Funds, under the designation of "Relief of the Poor."

Acquainted as we are with the difficulties with which the Government has had to contend with in the reduction of that burden, we approve of the efforts it has directed to this end.