

Much has lately been effected by Legislation and I hope that the circumstances of the Province are such as to require few important measures to be laid before you in this the last Session of the present Parliament.

It is a satisfaction to me to see that the Consolidated Statutes both of *Upper* and *Lower Canada* have been promulgated in an authentic form, but I must remind you that something yet remains to be done; and I desire your assistance in assimilating as far as possible the Law which prevails in either section of the Province.

A measure will be submitted to you having for its object the proper administration of Bankrupts' Estates in *Upper Canada*. I would earnestly request your careful consideration of so grave a subject. Some changes are required in our Criminal Law, and the further improvement of our Prison discipline demands the establishment at particular places of certain well regulated goals or local penitentiaries.

The Registration of judgments in *Upper Canada* has been the cause of expense and delay, and I think you will find it expedient to amend the Laws which relate to this matter.

The Report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands will be laid before you. You will see that the receipts from this Department have increased, and that the greatest efforts have been made to establish a sound system of immigration, and promote the settlement of our waste lands.

My attention has been directed to the fact that a Writ issued by the Court of Queen's Bench in *England* has been served in this Colony. I have been advised to represent to Her Majesty's Government the expediency of preventing by legislation in *Great Britain* any possible conflict of jurisdiction. I will also add that certain recent legal decisions appear to make it expedient for you to define by statutory enactments of your own the nature and extent of the Law of Parliament as it shall exist in *Canada*.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly :*

The accounts for the year which has just expired will be laid before you immediately, and I hope you will have no reason for being dissatisfied with the results which they present. You will see that the reception of the PRINCE OF WALES, whilst it was, we hope, worthy of the Province and of its illustrious guest, was conducted by the Commissioner of Public Works with a due regard to economy.

I have again to ask at your hands the supplies which will be required for the Service of Her Most Gracious Majesty in the current year.

*Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen :*

I have now only to desire you to give your best consideration to the various subjects on which I have touched, and I offer an earnest prayer that GOD will aid your counsels, and will bless our people with His choicest gifts.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the Legislative Assembly withdrew.

PRAYERS.

The Honorable Mr. *Vankoughnet* presented to the House a Bill intituled, "An Act relating to Common Schools."

The said Bill was read for the first time *pro forma*.

The Honorable the Speaker reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and

The same was then read by the Clerk.