

which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a Copy, which he read to the House, and is as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT, *and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council,*

MR. SPEAKER, *and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.*

ON meeting you again in General Assembly, I feel particular satisfaction at having it in my power to congratulate you upon the unexampled series of splendid victories which have attended His Majesty's Arms, and those of His Allies, during the late Campaign in Europe ; and as, from your local situation, you may be supposed to feel a more immediate interest in the events which have occurred in this part of the world, during the same period, I with equal pleasure and sincerity, congratulate you on our late successes in the Canadas ; against which Provinces, the whole of the Military operations of the Americans appear to have been directed.

Notwithstanding some partial advantages obtained by the enemy ; and his arrogant expectations, that the Canadas would prove an easy conquest, we find that the judicious arrangements made by the British Commander of the Forces, carried into execution by able officers, having under them brave and well disciplined Troops, and aided by the zealous exertions of a gallant, loyal and determined Militia, have so completely frustrated the projects of the Invaders, that they have not only been expelled from those Provinces by inferior numbers ; but the British Flag now flies triumphantly on the Fort of Niagara, and the American Frontier is at the mercy of the conquerors.

The gallantry and good conduct so conspicuous in the Canadian Militia, during this campaign, offer an example worthy of imitation to the Militia of Nova-Scotia ; and should the active services of the latter be required, I make no doubt but they will emulate the zeal and energy so nobly displayed by the loyal and patriotic Inhabitants of the Canadas.

You will have heard (I hope with satisfaction) that Great-Britain, far from being too much elated in the hour of her prosperity, has made an offer to enter into discussion with the Government of the United States, upon principles of perfect reciprocity, not inconsistent with the established maxims of public Law, or with the Maritime Rights of the British Empire. It would be premature in this stage of the Business, for me to make any observations upon the conciliatory proposals thus offered, further than to remark, that as the President of the United States in making this communication to Congress, recommends, —“ A continuation of the preparations for war,” it will also be prudent in us, to continue those measures hitherto thought necessary for our security and defence, in the same manner as if no such overtures had been made.

I have directed an Estimate for the Civil Establishment and for such other Services as appear necessary to be provided for, to be presented to you, and I trust, it will appear by the statement of the Public Expenditure for the last year, which I have ordered to be laid before you, that the utmost economy (consistent with the situation of the Country) has been observed in the application of the Monies placed at my disposal. By thus husbanding our resources, we shall, I hope, be prepared to meet more pressing exigencies, should they present themselves. Mr.