

JOURNAL

OF THE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

OF

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

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SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY.  
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Wednesday, March 16, 1864.

THE House having, by several Proclamations hereto annexed, been prorogued until this day, then to meet for the dispatch of business;

And being met—

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by Robert Hyndman, Esquire, Usher of the Black Rod:

Mr. Speaker;

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor commands the attendance of this Honorable House at the Bar of the Council Chamber, instant.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker and the House went up to attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber;

And being returned—

Mr. Speaker reported, that when the House did attend His Excellency this day in the Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Legislature, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, for greater accuracy, obtained a copy, which he read to the House, and is as follows:—

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

Your Address of Congratulation to your Sovereign on the Marriage of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has been laid before the Queen, and Her Majesty was much gratified by the expressions which it contained of loyalty and attachment to her throne and person.

You, I am confident, warmly participate in the joy to which the birth of a Prince has given rise throughout Her Majesty's dominions.

I am desired by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to inform you that Her Majesty has not been able to comply with the prayer conveyed in the Address which you adopted during last Session, on the subject of the Report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the differences between landlords and their tenants.

It is the wish of the Secretary of State, that in communicating this decision to you, I should invite your attention to suggestions made by his Grace, in a despatch, which will be laid before you.

His Grace, in this despatch proposed that the local Government should be authorized to issue, annually, a certain amount of debentures, and to apply these debentures in assisting to buy up the landlords' rights, with their consent.

His Grace further proposed that sales should not be compulsory on the landlords, but that a fixed rate of commutation should be indicated, by authority, as the Government price. That this assessed rate of purchase, viewed as receiv-