

" Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

" Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

" I HAVE called you together at this time from a desire to enable you to apply yourselves, at the earliest period, to the Public Business which will claim your attention, and to mature such measures as may be called for in the present situation of the Province.

" I regret that the returns of the late Harvest have not been so abundant as in the preceding year, and the recent check to the Commerce of the Country has strengthened the prevalent conviction that the utmost encouragement should be given to Agriculture, and also to the Fisheries, and to other sources of productive wealth.

" Of the measures of the last Session, there are none which hold out the prospect of more extensive benefit than the Act for the improvement of the Parish Schools, and I have the satisfaction to inform you, that by means of the funds placed at my disposal, and through the assistance of Her Majesty's Government, a supply of Elementary Books has been obtained for circulation, which are likely to be found most useful.

" Her Majesty's Government have also undertaken to obtain the services of a competent Teacher for the Model and Training School, the arrangements for which are in forwardness; and from the Correspondence which will be laid before you, there is, I hope, every prospect that in a short time an improved system will be in full operation.

" I have the satisfaction to inform you, that the Officers who have been engaged in the necessary exploration for adjusting the Canadian Boundary, and for ascertaining the direction of a Line of Railway to be carried through the Provinces, have completed their operations, and from the information I have received from them, I am led to anticipate a successful result to their labours. A Communication from Her Majesty's Government, respecting the Railway Survey, will be made to you; and from the importance to the Province of these and other undertakings of the kind, they will merit all the encouragement you may be prepared to extend to them.

" From the tenor of a Despatch I have recently received, the Survey of the Bay of Fundy may be expected to be renewed in the ensuing Spring.

" A Deputation from the several Provinces having met at Montreal in the last year, on the invitation of the Governor General, to consider of a proposal from Her Majesty's Government for the transfer of the General Post Office, and for the introduction of a uniform system and rate of Postage, it was attended by a Member of the Executive Council, and from the result of the deliberations of the Board, which will be laid before you, I hope that this important measure will be satisfactorily accomplished.

" It is with much regret that I have occasion to notice the occurrence of disturbances in some parts of the Province, which have led to the commission of serious outrages, calling for active interposition in support of the Laws, and for the adoption of measures for the better security of life and property, by providing more effectually for the Police of disturbed Districts, and by improving the means of secondary punishment in the Prisons.

" The measures adopted in the last year to accomplish a satisfactory settlement of the claims of the Indian Population, and of persons residing on their Lands, having shewn the difficulty of accomplishing this desirable object without a further amendment