

this House declaring that such new lease or alteration would be, in their view, a violation of the contract entered into by the act of 1849, for granting a Civil List, and an infringement of the inalienable and most valued rights of the people of Nova Scotia.

Which being seconded, the hon. Mr. Johnston moved that the resolution be amended by adding thereto the following words :

"But this House offers no objection to the completion of the document necessary for carrying into effect the agreements and arrangements subsisting, and by which the respective parties were bound at the time the casual revenues became vested in the Province."

Which proposed amendment being seconded and put, and the House dividing thereon, there appeared for the amendment, seven; against it, seventeen.

On motion of the hon. Attorney General,

Resolved, That this House respectfully request and authorise his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to continue the negotiation which has been opened, pursuant to the resolution of last Session, with the General Mining Association; and to enter into such an agreement and compromise as are contemplated in the letter of 31st July, 1854, from the Hon. Wm. Young, Attorney General, to Robert Mosher, Esq. the chair, man of the Association; and should such agreement or compromise be effected, this house will ratify and confirm the same, with such modifications thereof as may be found necessary or advisable, and be approved of by His Excellency in Council.

Mr. McLellan moved that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, in consequence of the Reciprocity Treaty entered into with the United States, a much larger sale of coal may be expected from our coal mines in future:

Resolved therefore, That this House respectfully request his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to order an examination of the way and manner of working the Coal Mines in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, the mode of measurement, and all other conditions on which the Company hold their mines, and to take such further action in the matter as may appear just and right for the interest of the Province, and to fully secure the fulfilment of the company's agreement.

Which was agreed to by the House.

Crown Lands.

Mr. Archibald's report on the Crown Lands was adopted.

Post Office Fines.

On motion of the hon. Fin. Secretary,

Resolved, That his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor be respectfully requested to pay the mail couriers no larger sum, on account of remission of fines imposed on them by the Postmaster General, than that recommended by the Post Office Committee this year, notwithstanding any resolution of this House to the contrary.

Private Secretary.

Hon. Mr. Johnston moved against the grant to the Governor's Private Secretary; which on amendment of Hon. Attorney General, was negatived.

Prorogation.

At 4 o'clock, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor came down and prorogued the session, with the following

SPEECH :

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

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

The business of the Session having been finally and satisfactorily closed, it affords me great pleasure to relieve you from further Legislative attendance.

Of the measures which have been matured this Session, there are two of prominent importance, and which will render it memorable in the history of the Province.

The Reciprocity Treaty with the United States, which your enlightened sense of the public weal led you to affirm by very large majorities, having been sanctioned by the Imperial Parliament, has opened up a vast and increasing market, and will afford the most animating and powerful stimulus to the industry of our people.

The abolition of the Chancery Court, and the blending, by a simple and comprehensive plan, of the principles of Equity with those of the Common Law, have effected an object long and ardently desired, and will be regarded, I trust, by Her Majesty's Government as a wise and valuable measure.

The introduction of the new principle of evidence and practice in the Supreme Court, will be hailed, also, as an improvement in our Provincial jurisprudence.

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

The liberality with which you have provided for all the branches of the public service, and the munificent sum set apart for the roads and bridges, demand my warmest acknowledgments.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

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

In the ensuing Summer, I anticipate no difficulty in borrowing, on the credit of the Province, a sufficient sum to carry on the important public works in which we are embarked; and, by the end of next year, I confidently hope that the Railway, stretching from Halifax Harbor, will be extended east and west, till it reach, on the one hand, the waters of the Bay of Fundy, and on the other, those of the Shubenacadie River.

To yourselves, returning to your homes, at the termination of this present Parliament, it must be highly gratifying to mark the unexampled prosperity, and the rapid advance of this fine Province; and I am sure that you will ever where inculcate sentiments of mutual good will, freedom from party strife, and affectionate loyalty to our Queen and Constitution.