

"I allude to a Despatch in answer to an Address of the House of Assembly presented to the Queen in the last Session with reference to the constitution of the Legislative Council in this Province.

"You will find in the language of Her Majesty's advisers in this Despatch strong evidence of a disposition to meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Subjects on such Constitutional questions.

"I doubt not that any steps taken by you in this matter will bear the stamp of calm deliberation, and will be characterized by an adherence to the true spirit of the British Constitution. This spirit is adverse to all hasty and ill-considered change, whilst it is capable of modifying the letter of constitutional forms, so as to meet the sober wishes of the People, and thus adapt our Institutions to the wants of Society, without unnecessarily invading existing rights.

"These are all weighty matters, which I place with confidence in your hands, and thus leave you to your deliberations."

Mr. Thomson then proposed the Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in answer to the Speech, which he read in his place, and the same having been seconded, it was handed in to the Chair, where it was again read, and is as follows:—

To His Excellency SIR EDMUND WALKER HEAD, Baronet, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

1st We, Your Majesty's Faithful and Loyal Subjects, the Representatives of the People of New Brunswick, offer our thanks to Your Excellency for the Speech addressed to us at the opening of the Session.

2. We receive with pleasure Your Excellency's announcement of the birth of another Prince, while we deeply regret the decease of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

3. The abundant Harvest with which a kind Providence has crowned the labours of the last Season—the improvements perceptible in the various branches of our Commerce and the present state of the Treasury, we regard as subjects of congratulation, affording the strongest evidence of an advance in the general prosperity of the Province. We trust, with Your Excellency, that the experience of the past will so regulate the engagements of those who embark in our principal Exports, as to prevent the recurrence of those occasional revulsions which have disturbed the Commercial affairs of the Province, and we feel an honest pride in assuring Your Excellency that we have the most unbounded reliance in the energy and enterprise of the people we represent, and that they will avail themselves with avidity of any channels for the developing of the great natural resources of the Country, which it may be in the power of the Legislature to open to them.

4. We cordially agree in the sentiments expressed by Your Excellency as to the permanent value to be attached to the construction of Railways in the Province, and we do not hesitate to give our strongest pledges to Your Excellency, that any measure, compatible with our means to expedite and advance their introduction and completion, will be most favourably received by us.

5. Whether undertakings of this nature are likely to be more successfully conducted under the immediate management of the Government than through the medium of private companies, is a subject which has elicited a great diversity of opinion; but we are inclined to coincide with the views expressed by Your Excellency, that the details of such great works may be left, with greater safety to the public, in other hands than those of the Government.

6. While we cannot but look with the deepest interest to the success which we hope will attend the unwearied enterprise and perseverance evinced in the commencement and progress of the Saint Andrews Railway, we are sincerely gratified by the assurance of
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