

in a great measure provide for this; but with a view further to aid Immigration, I am authorised to declare to you, that Her Majesty's Government are prepared to assist in facilitating the passage of the Immigrant from the port at which he is landed to the place where his labour may be made available, and that a vote of money for this purpose will be proposed to the Imperial Parliament. The conditions which Her Majesty's Government attach to this measure will be submitted to you, at the same time that I shall draw your attention to a scheme for the settlement and disposal of the public lands.

It appears highly desirable that the principle of local self-government, which already prevails to some extent throughout that part of the Province which was formerly Upper Canada, should receive a more extended application there, and that the people should exercise a greater degree of power over their own local affairs. I have directed a measure upon this subject to be submitted to you, and I solicit your earnest attention to the establishment of such a form of local self-government for those Districts of the Province which are unprovided with it, as may ensure satisfaction to the people, whilst it preserves inviolate the prerogative of the Crown, and maintains the administration of Justice pure from party and popular excitement.

A due provision for the education of the people is one of the first duties of the State, and in this Province especially the want of it is grievously felt. The establishment of an efficient system, by which the blessings of instruction may be placed within the reach of all, is a work of difficulty—but its overwhelming importance demands that it should be undertaken. I recommend the consideration of that subject to your best attention, and I shall be most anxious to afford you, in your labours, all the co-operation in my power. If it should be found impossible so to reconcile conflicting opinions as to obtain a measure which may meet the approbation of all, I trust that at least steps may be taken by which an advance to a more perfect system may be made, and the difficulty under which the people of this Province now labour may be greatly diminished, subject to such improvements hereafter as time and experience may point out.

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

The financial accounts of the Province will be immediately laid before you, and I shall direct the estimates for the public service to

be submitted to you with the least possible delay. I rely upon your co-operation in the financial measures which it will be my duty to propose to you, for taking advantage of the assistance which Her Majesty's Government propose to afford, and for carrying into effect the public improvements which are deemed most desirable. I shall earnestly endeavour that whatever you may appropriate for this latter purpose shall be economically employed and rendered effective.

*Honourable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen:*

In your wisdom and prudence I confide for the regulation of the different important matters which must necessarily come before you. Canada, united under a Constitution which the Imperial Legislature has framed with an earnest desire for the welfare of this portion of the British Empire, cannot fail to prosper under prudent and sage counsels. The generous aid which I have already announced to you—the determination which I am also empowered to state on the part of the Government to devote annually a large sum for the military defences of the Province—the fixed and settled determination which I have the Queen's commands to declare, that Her North American possessions shall be maintained at all hazards as part of Her Empire, are pledges of the sincerity with which the Mother Country desires to promote the prosperity of Canada, and to assist in the well working of the new Institutions which it has established. The eyes of England are anxiously fixed upon the result of this great experiment. Should it succeed, the aid of Parliament in your undertakings—the confidence of British Capitalists in the credit you may require from them—the security which the British people will feel in seeking your shores and establishing themselves upon your fertile soil,—may carry improvement to an unexampled height. The rapid advance of trade and of immigration within the last eighteen months, affords ample evidence of the effects of tranquillity in restoring confidence and promoting prosperity. May no dissensions mar the flattering prospect which is open before us—may your efforts be steadily directed to the great practical improvements of which the Province stands so much in need; and under the blessing of that Providence which has hitherto preserved this portion of the British dominions, may your counsels be so guided as to ensure to the Queen attached and loyal subjects, and to united Canada a prosperous and contented people.