

PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND, FEBRUARY, 1858.

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MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

On Tuesday, the 16th day of February, 1858, the Lieut. Governor came down to the Council Chamber, and with the usual formalities, opened the Fourth Session of the Twentieth General Assembly, with the following Speech:—

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have convened you, at the usual period of the year, for the consideration of the affairs of the Island, relying with full confidence that your labors will be resumed in a spirit which will attest your zeal for the public welfare.

A beneficent Providence has again blessed us with an abundant harvest; and the state of the Revenue, which exceeds in amount that of the previous year, is satisfactory.

I must not, however, omit to direct your attention to the probable diminution of Revenue in the current year, which there is but too much reason to apprehend will follow from the depression so universally experienced at present in all branches of commercial industry, and from which this community is not exempt.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The accounts of the past year, and the estimates for the current year, shall be laid before you, and I rely on your readiness to grant the necessary supplies for the public service.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The circumstances of the last Session having been such as to prevent Her Majesty's Government from proposing to Parliament to guarantee the Loan intended to be raised for the purchase of Lands in this Island, that measure was unavoidably postponed to the present Session of the Imperial Parliament.

A copy of a Despatch from the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies on this subject shall be communicated to you.

The Mutiny which has so lamentably disturbed Her Majesty's East Indian possessions has already been reduced, by British valor and heroism, to a point which leaves no room to doubt its final suppression; but the unexampled atrocity by which it has been characterized has occasioned a vast amount of destitution and suffering to the surviving victims, which appeals forcibly on their behalf to the generous sympathy of their fellow subjects in all parts of Her Majesty's dominions.

I must again earnestly recommend to your consideration the adoption of more efficient means for the suppression of

illicit traffic, which there is no reason to doubt is still carried on in this Island, to the great prejudice of the morals of the people, and to the serious injury of the Revenue.

I have great pleasure in referring to the improvement which, during the past year, has been manifested in the prosecution of the fisheries, which, if hereafter continued, will doubtless add much to the welfare, and increase the wealth and prosperity of the Country.

The marked improvement in Agriculture and Farm Stock throughout this Island is, under Providence, attributable to the liberal grants made by the Legislature for the encouragement of that important branch of industry; and I have no doubt that your fostering care will still be extended to so desirable an object.

You do not, I trust, require to be assured of my ready co-operation in any measures you may entertain for the honor and advantage of the Island.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, February 16, 1858.

The Session having been opened by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with the customary formalities, after the appointment of the usual Committees,

His Honor the President read a letter received from the Rev. Charles Lloyd, on the eve of his departure for England, in September last, tendering the resignation of his situation as Chaplain to the Council, and his Honor's reply thereto, when

It was resolved, that the Rev. Doctor Jenkins be appointed Chaplain, in place of Rev. C. Lloyd, who had left the Island.

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 1858.

William M. Howe, Esq., was appointed Reporter.

Mr. John S. Bremner's tender for printing the Journals, being the lowest, was accepted.

Hon. Mr. Forgan, from the Committee appointed to prepare the Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, reported the draft of an Address, which was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Hon. Mr. Bagnall obtained leave of absence till Friday.

FRIDAY, February 19, 1858.

House in Committee on Address to the Lieut. Governor. Address agreed to as amended.

The Hons. Messrs. Forgan, Walker and Craswell were appointed a Committee to wait upon His Excellency, and ascertain at what time he would be pleased to receive the same.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL, pursuant to notice, brought in a Bill for the safe custody of insane persons charged