

for its improvement, particularly as some of the improvements suggested, can, perhaps, only be effected by Legislative aid and enactment.

There is yet another subject to which I deem it my duty briefly to advert,—viz., the deficiency which exists in this Colony of a suitable building for holding its Legislative Sessions : and I would suggest to you to combine with the consideration of this subject, that of the requisite accommodation, as well for the Supreme Court of Judicature, as for all the principal Officers of the Legislature, and of the Government, including places of secure deposit for the Public Records of each department. It has been suggested that the building at present occupied as a residence by the Queen's Representative would afford ample space for all these purposes, and that the most economical measure, as respects the Colony, might be for the Legislature to address her Majesty's Government for the consent of the Crown to such an appropriation of that Building, upon condition of a suitable residence being erected by the Colony for the Governor. Concurring in the opinion as to the advantage to the Colony with which this arrangement would be attended, I shall be found ready to support, by my recommendation, any proposition which you may be induced to address to me to this effect.

*Mr. Speaker, Hon. Gentlemen, and Gentlemen.*

I am well aware that I have considerably exceeded the limits to which it is usual to confine addresses of this nature : but if, upon this, the first occasion of my meeting you in Provincial Legislature, I have been induced to give free expression to some of the views and opinions which I have been led to form since my arrival in Newfoundland, I indulge the hope that you will at least see in this proceeding the evidence of an anxious desire on my part to identify myself with all its interests, and to do all that may depend upon my position, as the Representative of a benignant and maternal Sovereign, to co-operate with you in promoting them, and in endeavouring to secure to her Majesty's loyal subjects in this Island the fullest measure of benefit which their new Constitution may be found capable of conferring upon them. And although the views and suggestions which I have laid before you may appear too comprehensive for the present means of the Colony, and quite incapable of being realized otherwise than very gradually, yet I have not on that account deemed it the less to consist with my duty to avail myself of an occasion which may be regarded as constituting a new era in the Political History of Newfoundland, for the purpose of placing upon the records of its Legislature such suggestions as a long acquaintance with the British American Provinces has enabled me to offer, for effecting those improvements in the condition of this Island, which, by tending to develop its varied resources, appear to me to be alone wanting to place it upon a footing with the most favoured of those Provinces, and which may, I trust, supply a motive to its Legislature to endeavour to raise the Revenue of the Island to as high a point as may be considered consistent with the interests of its inhabitants, for the purpose of being applied to objects of so much general importance.

In conclusion, I would remark, that to *us*, as separate, co-ordinate, and independent branches of the Provincial Legislature, is respectively confided the conservation of the rights of the People, and of the Prerogative of the Crown—principles which are so beautifully blended in our admirable Constitution that the latter cannot be infringed without a violation of the former.—Our relative duties, therefore, are rendered plain and easy ;—