

*Friday, 8th January, 1830.*

SIR JOHN COLBORNE, K.C.B. *Lieutenant Governor.*

The activity and industry of the Agriculturists in all parts of the Province; their efforts to unlock the Country, and reach the Lakes with their surplus produce; the successful Culture introduced in the Western Townships; point out the profitable result that may be anticipated from affording proper encouragement to this individual exertion and labour.

Fortunately the difference of situation of several Districts has been equalized by the opening of the Welland Canal: the extension of it to the Grand River will complete this first great Provincial enterprise; and will require your immediate support and protection.

These improvements must naturally lead your attention to the St. Lawrence, and to the manifest advantages that may be derived from perfecting the Navigation in that quarter.

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;*

I have directed a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the last year to be laid before you, with the Estimate of Supplies for the current year.

From the accounts you will perceive, that in consequence of the favorable returns of the Duties levied under the Statute of the 14th Geo. 3rd, the expense of the administration of Justice, and of that part of the Civil Establishment not provided for by His Majesty's Government, or by the annual vote of the Imperial Parliament, has been defrayed entirely from those proceeds; and that a considerable balance accruing from the excess of former estimates beyond the expenditure, remains at the disposal of the Legislature.

The necessity of reforming the Royal Grammar School, was evident from your Report at the close of the last Session.

In establishing a College at York, under the guidance of able Masters, the object which we have in view, will, I trust, be speedily attained.

The delay that may take place in revising the Charter of the University, or in framing one suitable to the Province and to the intention of the Endowment, must, in fact, under present circumstances, tend to the advancement of the Institution: as its use depended on the actual state of Education in the Province.

Dispersed as the Population is, over an extensive Territory, a general efficiency in the Common Schools cannot be expected, particularly whilst the Salaries of the Masters will not admit of their devoting their whole time to their profession.

*Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen:*

The King's pleasure on the Bills reserved has not yet been communicated to me.

I recommend you to examine the Acts that may be about to expire.

Your attention will also be drawn to another subject of importance: the exposure of property, and the facility of depredation in certain Districts, and the frequent cases of Capital Convictions, where, through the dispensing power of the Crown, it is thought advisable to arrest the sentence of the Law, notwithstanding the evils that may arise from repeated mitigation, without a system of secondary punishment, or any means of disposing of offenders.

With regard to the questions submitted to His Majesty's Government, whatever difficulties may have occurred in determining them, or reconciling the respective interests with which they are connected, the diligent investigation through which they are passing evinces the earnest desire of His Majesty that this portion of His Diminutions should reap the full benefit of good Laws and free Institutions.

Ordered, That an Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in answer to His Speech at the opening of the Session.

Ordered, that the Honorable Messrs. Powell, Wells, and the Honorable and Venerable the Archdeacon of York, be appointed a Committee to prepare such Address.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

Committee appointed to prepare Address to Lieutenant Governor, in answer to his Speech at the opening of the House.