

Address to his Excellency

*To His Excellency HENRY PRESCOTT,
C. B. Governor and Commander-
in-Chief in and over the Island of
Newfoundland and its Depend-
encies, &c. &c. &c.*

May it please Your Excellency,

We the Representatives of His Majesty's Loyal Subjects, the Inhabitants of Newfoundland, in Colonial Parliament assembled, beg leave to thank your Excellency for the speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session.

We fully appreciate the considerate motive which has induced your Excellency to assemble us at a season of the year, when a short intermission of our private pursuits, will allow us to give to the public business our undivided attention.

The tranquillity that pervades all classes in the Country affords us, in common with your Excellency, sincere satisfaction ; and we doubt not that by the enactment of wholesome and salutary Laws, that tranquillity will be rendered permanent.

Experience has shewn that in all countries civilization has kept pace with the means of facilitating intercourse ; we therefore thank your Excellency for calling our attention to the inefficiency of some of the provisions of so important an enactment as the Road bill, which shall not fail to receive our early consideration.

To the improvement of the Judicature, and the framing of such enactments as will become necessary in consequence of the Fishery Act having expired, we will direct our attention with that care and prudence which a due sense of the injury which might result from sudden and incautious changes made in Laws affecting the vital interests of the colony must necessarily inspire.

The causes that prevent your Excellency from drawing our attention more immediately to the means of promoting public education, are obvious ; and it is to us a matter of deep regret that your Excellency's humane and enlightened views on this interesting subject, cannot at present be acted upon. It is, however, consoling to learn that your Excellency's opinions of the elements of the community over which you preside have been so justly formed.

We regret that on your Excellency's assumption of the Government, you should have found yourself compelled by the inadequacy of the remaining funds to have recourse to the issue of Treasury Notes ; and we agree with your Excellency that the sooner these Notes can be called in the better.

We beg to assure your Excellency that all our energies shall be applied to a sound and wholesome system of Finance, capable, after effectuating all possible retrenchments, of defraying the Civil expenditure of the colony.

We thank your Excellency for having directed an Estimate of the ensuing Financial year, and various other documents to be prepared for our information ; and, also, for the assurance that your Excellency will be anxious to prevent unnecessary expenditure, and to enforce every due provision for that purpose.

The satisfaction which your Excellency has been pleased to express at having been appointed to administer the Government of this Island, at a time when its independent Legislature is fully established, we hail as the harbinger of that prosperity to the Colony which is the benevolent wish of your Excellency's heart. That Government in which the people