

arrival in your government.

We have had frequent occasions, during the reign of our most gracious Sovereign, to acknowledge his paternal care of this favoured colony, and his solicitude for its welfare; and we recognise with gratitude, an additional instance of his Majesty's benevolent regard for his loyal subjects in this province; in his selection of an officer of your Excellency's distinguished character; and great military talents, to preside over us at the present critical period; in the sending of a respectable force, under your Excellency's command, for our protection; and in the supply of arms, clothing, and camp equipage, so graciously granted, for the use and accommodation of our militia.

Deeply sensible, that it is our duty and interest, to contribute to the utmost of our power, towards the defence of his Majesty's province; we shall give the most attentive consideration to the important subject recommended in your Excellency's speech, and though convinced, that the present inefficient state of the militia, is more owing to a want of the due execution of the laws, now in force for their government, than to any material defect in those laws, yet we will carefully revise the whole, and endeavour to form a system suitable to local circumstances, and to the genius of the people.

The loyalty of this colony has been tried and acknowledged in times of great emergency, and has always constituted the happiness and boast of its inhabitants; and we can confidently assure your Excellency, that the people whom we have the honor to represent, are animated with the like principles of loyalty and with an affectionate attachment to his Majesty, and that if personal exertions shall be required, it will be found that in them, the spirit of their ancestors has not degenerated.

In the late Session of General Assembly, ample appropriations were made for the support of his Majesty's Government in the Civil Establishment of the Province, and for other services of public utility; should the present crisis require additional aids for the honour of our Sovereign, or the defence of His Colony, your Excellency may be assured we will cheerfully grant supplies for these necessary purposes.

We accept, Sir, with grateful confidence, the assurance of your Excellency's disposition to dispense justice and promote the welfare of this Province, and with perfect sincerity we pledge our determination to use our best endeavours to make your Excellency's Administration easy and agreeable to you, and to co-operate in every measure which may conduce to support the honor of our Sovereign, and to advance the joint and inseparable interests of this Colony and the Parent State.

*Resolved*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by the whole House.

On motion, *ordered*, That Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Tonge, Mr. Robie, Mr. Ritchie, and Mr. Mortimer, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to know his pleasure when he will be attended by the House.

On motion of Mr. Tonge, *ordered*, That Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Pyke, Mr. Tonge, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Morton, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. Robie, be a Committee to take into consideration the several Laws relating to the Militia, and report to the House a system for their improvement.

Then the House adjourned until To-morrow at twelve of the Clock.