

3 °. You will be glad to learn that during the recess the railways to Windsor and Truro have been completed and opened for traffic, embracing sixty miles more than were previously in operation. Full reports of everything connected with these great public works will be placed before you without delay.

4 °. During the past summer I had the pleasure of visiting several portions of this fine province, and intend to avail myself of future opportunities to become personally acquainted with those sections of the country I have not already seen.

5 °. When in Cape Breton, I visited the St. Peter's Canal, and directed a further examination and report to be made upon that work, which will be laid before you.

6 °. The hospital for the insane has been so far completed and furnished, as to be ready for the reception of patients, a number of whom are now experiencing the benefit of that institution.

7 °. While we have reason to thank Almighty God for an abundant harvest, I regret to learn that some distress has been experienced by a portion of our hardy and industrious population, from a partial failure of the fisheries.

8 °. Although, as was expected, a slight deficiency in the revenue has resulted from the paralyzed condition of trade everywhere, I am happy to find indications of decided improvement already exhibited in the healthier tone of commercial transactions both here and abroad, from which we may confidently anticipate an increase in the revenue of the current year.

9 °. The increased liability devolved upon you in connection with the public works, renders it imperative that, in making your annual appropriations, due regard should be had to economy, in order that you may preserve unsullied the credit of the Province upon which your character as a people depends.

*Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the house of assembly ;*

10 °. The accounts for the expenditure of the past, together with the estimates for the present year will be placed before you.

*Mr. President and honorable gentlemen of the legislative council ;*

*Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the house of assembly ;*

11 °. Your attention will be invited to several useful measures, intended to facilitate the business and promote the interests of the province, and which will, I doubt not, receive your careful consideration.

Vacancies in representation reported

Mr. Speaker announced to the house that having during the last session received information of the demise of Gloud Wilson McLelan, esquire, one of the members for the county of Colchester, and having during the recent received information of the demise of Ichabod Dimock, esquire, one of the members for the county of Hants, he the Speaker had thereupon, pursuant to law, required that writs might be issued to supply the vacancies in the representation occasioned by the demise of such members respectively.

Writs and returns presented

The honorable provincial secretary then delivered in writs directed to the sheriff's of the counties of Colchester and Hants for the election of a representative for each of such counties respectively, with the returns of the sheriffs thereto ; and the same respectively read, it appeared by such returns that Archibald Woodberry McLelan, esq. had been duly elected and returned as a representative for the county of Colchester, and that Bennett Smith, esquire, had been duly elected and returned as a representative for the county of Hants.

Bennet.