

Speech at opening of Session.

Governor of the State of New York, with whom I have hitherto been on the most friendly terms, as also with Her Majesty's Minister at Washington: and awaiting their replies, I have reinforced the gallant Militia of the frontier by a strong Corps of Observation, and have made arrangements for a general call upon the Militia, in case their services should, unfortunately, be required.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I shall direct the Public Accounts, and the Estimate for the ensuing Year, to be laid before you.

The ordinary supplies necessary for the public service will, I have no doubt, be granted; and it cannot but be expected that the late rash attempt to produce confusion in the Province will give rise to an increase in the public expenditure, and create some new claims upon the justice and bounty of the Legislature.

You will, I doubt not, consider the propriety of indemnifying any of the inhabitants of this Province who have sustained serious losses from the outrageous acts of the insurgents, and of providing pensions for the very few Subjects of Her Majesty who may have been disabled by wounds received in the defence of their laws.

Honourable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen:

If you were assembled under ordinary circumstances, there would be several matters relating to the improvement of the Province, to the general welfare of its inhabitants, and to the encouragement of immigration, which I should desire to submit to your consideration; but you will probably agree with me in thinking that it may be prudent to admit of your speedy return to your several Districts, by forbearing as much as possible to enter at this time upon the discussion of business which can be properly postponed.

Nothing perhaps presses so earnestly for immediate consideration as the adoption of such measures as may most effectually secure the inhabitants of this Province against the recurrence of the danger to which they have lately been exposed.

Every one must feel that the people who at this inclement season forsook their families, and rushed in thousands to the defence of their independence and their laws, deserve that every exertion should be made by their Legislature for their future protection; and having seen the misery which the late violent insurrection against the laws has inflicted upon many hundreds of people and their families, we must feel that humanity requires every reasonable precaution to be taken, for enabling the Government in future to suppress such guilty proceedings in their earliest stages.

You are intimately acquainted with the character, the wishes, and the interests of your fellow-subjects, for whom it is your privilege to legislate; you are well able to judge of the causes of those evils which we deplore, and I can leave it with confidence to your discretion to devise whatever measures may appear best suited for maintaining the public tranquillity, and for protecting the lives and properties of Her Majesty's Subjects.

You will not fail also to devote your most serious consideration to the means of preventing or repelling such hostile aggressions upon our territory, by the people of a friendly power, as our frontier at this moment exhibits; for we owe it to our honour, and to the British name, to be vigilant and firm at such a crisis.

On motion of Mr. Gowan, seconded by Capt. Dunlop,

Ordered—That One Thousand copies of the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, this day delivered to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature, be Printed for the use of members, and that the same Speech be referred to a Committee of the whole House on Saturday next.

Mr. Cartwright gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow, move for leave to bring in a Bill to reinvest the Clergy Reserves of this Province in Her Majesty, for the maintenance of Public Worship and support of Religion within this Province.

Mr. Cartwright gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow, move for leave to bring in a bill to continue all expiring Laws to the end of the next Session of the Legislature.

Mr. Cartwright gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow, move for leave to bring in a Bill to alter and amend the Laws relating to taking the Census of this Province.

Mr. Gowan gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow, move that the House be placed in Committee of the whole, for the purpose of granting a sum of money for the maintenance and support of Common Schools, for the year 1838.

1000 copies of Speech to be printed.

NOTICES:
Of Bill to reinvest Clergy Reserves.

Of Bill to continue expiring Laws.

Of Bill to amend Census Laws.

Of Committee of whole on support of Common Schools for 1838.