

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

UPPER CANADA.

Thursday, 14th January, 1836.

This being the day appointed for the meeting of the Provincial Legislature, at two of the clock, P. M.

The House met.

House meets.

PRESENT :

The Honorable JOHN B. ROBINSON, SPEAKER.

The Hon. & Ven. The ARCHDEACON OF YORK,

The Honorable Messrs. WELLS,

" " CAMERON,

" " MARKLAND,

" " ALLAN,

The Honorable Messrs. P. ROBINSON,

" " McDONELL,

" " ELMSLEY,

" " HAMILTON,

" " ADAMSON,

" " CROOKS,

Members present.

At three of the clock P. M. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor being seated on the Throne, the Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Council commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to inform the Members of the House of Assembly that, it was His Excellency's pleasure that they do forthwith attend in this House; who being come, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor was pleased to open the Session by a gracious Speech to both Houses.

His Excellency comes to the House and commands the attendance of the Assembly.

Parliament convened.

The House of Assembly having withdrawn, His Excellency was pleased to retire.

His Excellency retires.

Prayers were read.

The Honorable the Speaker informed the House that he was in possession of a copy of His Excellency's Speech, which he read, and it was again read by the Clerk, and is as follows:

Speaker reports a copy of His Excellency's Speech; same read.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council; and,
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :*

Since you were last assembled no material change has taken place in the prospects of this Colony.

The Speech.

The continuance of uninterrupted tranquillity has happily enabled and disposed the inhabitants of the Province, to turn their undivided attention to the improvement of the country, and the development of its resources.

In the Home and Midland Districts, and the District of Newcastle, works have been projected for the improvement of internal navigation, by opening practicable channels to the Great Lakes, and Rail Roads have been suggested, which we cannot but hope, may confer incalculable benefit upon a great portion of this vast continent, in which Upper Canada occupies so fortunate a position.

In the Lower Districts, the people are not less intent on the means by which the mutual advantages of their situation may be improved: and in the Western parts of the Province, the past year has given rise to several plans of a very interesting character, which I am persuaded claim your attentive examination.

The results of a free scope being thus afforded to the spirit of enterprize, will soon be displayed in the rapid completion of solid improvements, if the activity which is now so prevalent, be sustained by the judicious and cordial co-operation of the Legislature.

Some of the projects to which I refer, would have appeared a few years since visionary, but those which we have already accomplished, and the undertakings of the neighboring countries, may encourage you to look forward to designs on a more extensive scale, and to support to the utmost of your power, the efforts of individuals and private associations.

It will be satisfactory to you to learn, that the works in progress on the St. Lawrence, are far advanced, and I trust, that by the aid of the Lower Province, all obstructions to the navigation of that great river will be speedily and effectually surmounted.