

that in the present day, a competent degree of Elementary Education is not only the gift which Parents, however humble their circumstances, would most wish to confer upon their Children, but may be regarded as almost a *necessity*, happily imposed upon us by the advanced condition of society in this respect, in the older countries of Europe. The obligation, therefore, appears to attach, with peculiar force, to the Legislature of every young and rising Colony, to grant such aid as may be necessary for placing this inestimable gift within the reach of *all*, upon terms such as their means may enable them to afford—and in inviting you to consider how far some practical improvement may not be introduced into the system upon which your District and Local Schools are at present conducted (whether by connecting them with the Central Academy as a 'Normal School,' for the instruction of the Teachers themselves; whether by raising both the stipends and the standard of qualification of the Teachers, even at the expense of a reduction of their numbers, or by any other well considered plan,) I venture to believe that the invitation will be met by a corresponding feeling on your part, of the great importance of the subject, upon which it only remains for me to assure you, that I will receive, with the sincere desire of being enabled to give effect to your wishes with His Majesty's Government, any suggestions which you may be pleased to make to me relative to the appropriation of the funds raised under a recent Provincial Statute for the general purposes of Education.

In conclusion, I deem it a duty, with equal earnestness and sincerity, to recommend to you—a recommendation which, I trust, may be received in the spirit in which it is offered—the unceasing cultivation of that harmony and unanimity by which your proceedings appear to have been governed during the last Session, and the absence of which, wherever it has unfortunately occurred, has invariably proved most detrimental to the public interests.

The Speech being ended, His Excellency was pleased to retire; and the House of Assembly having withdrawn, the President reported His Excellency's Speech, which being read by the Clerk—

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to return the thanks of this House for his Speech delivered this day.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Brecken* and Mr. *Smith* be a Committee to prepare a Draft, pursuant to the above Resolution.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Attorney General*, Mr. *Brecken* and Mr. *Goodman* be a Committee to revise the Journals of this House each day.

On motion, *Ordered*, that Mr. *Haviland* and Mr. *Smith* be a Committee to examine into and report upon such Laws as are near expiring.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Rev. Louis Charles Jenkins be requested to attend this House to-morrow, at One o'clock, and each succeeding day during the Session, for the purpose of reading Prayers.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor requiring the occasional personal attendance of the Hon. Mr. *Haviland*, the Acting Colonial Secretary and Clerk of the Council, Mr. Charles Desbrisay was appointed to act as Clerk during the present Session; and having taken the Oath of Allegiance, and also the Oath of Office, took his seat accordingly.

Mr. *Smith* informed the House, that Mr. *Attorney General* had obtained leave from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to absent himself for some days.

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by the Hon. Mr. *Haviland*, Acting Colonial Secretary.

J. HARVEY, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor lays before the Legislative Council copies of two Despatches, and an Extract from a third Despatch, which he has received from the Right Honorable Lord Glenelg, His Majesty's