

JOURNAL

AND

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

Of the Province of NOVA-SCOTIA, 25th February, 1802.

A MESSAGE from his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by Mr. Secretary *Wentworth.*

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency commands this House to attend his Excellency, immediately, in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the House, went up to attend his Excellency,

And being returned,

Mr. Speaker, reported, That the House had attended his Excellency in the Council Chamber; where his Excellency was pleased to make a Speech, of which, Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy; which he read to the House, and is as follows, viz.

Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council and

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I HAVE been induced to call you together at this early season, since, from various circumstances, it seemed more convenient than any later period that could have been chosen.

To have the legislative business of the year accomplished in the early part of it, will be attended with many advantages; and you will take care, that by moderation, harmony, and dispatch in your proceedings, the Session may not be protracted to a length, inconvenient to yourselves, or injurious to the country.

I congratulate you most cordially, on the termination of a long and severe war, by the signing and ratification of preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and France; and although this Province, by the fostering care of our beloved Sovereign, and the precautionary vigilance of his Majesty's ministers, has been, during the whole contest, protected and secured, not merely from immediate danger, but from almost every injury attendant on a state of war; yet, in a thinly inhabited country, where the most desirable acquisition is that of industrious farmers to cultivate an extensive waste of wilderness, peace will be at all times among the first of public blessings.

The check which the termination of the war must at first occasion to commercial pursuits, will, I hope, be speedily obviated by new and more extensive sources of trade, as well as by your attention to protect and encourage, as occasion may require, the agriculture, fisheries, and commerce of the Province.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

The liberality with which the College at Windsor was first established, and the consequent munificence of his Majesty, have already rendered it very beneficial to the education of youth; and when the Royal Charter and Endowments, which his Ma-

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