

15th May, 1861.

First Session Eighth General Assembly, 24th and 25th Victoria.

After some time the House resumed.

Address reported
with amendments.

The Chairman reported the Address with some amendments.

Ordered—That the report be received. And

Read a third time
and passed.

Ordered—That the said Address, as amended, be engrossed and read a third time presently, and the same was read a third time and passed, and the Honorable the President signed the same.

The Address is as follows :

To His Excellency Sir Alexander Hannerman,
Knight, Governor, &c., &c.

Address.

May it please Your Excellency :

We, the Legislative Council in Session convened, desire to thank Your Excellency for the gracious Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature after the recent General Election.

We cannot but concur with Your Excellency in lamenting that in the election of Members as Representatives in the General Assembly, there should have been any obstruction to the free exercise of that privilege to which all British subjects have an undoubted right, to vote for such persons as they may consider best qualified to represent their interests in the House of Assembly; and we regret to learn that serious riots and disturbances have unhappily occurred in some of the Electoral Districts, attended with the destruction of property in some places, and melancholy loss of life and wounding in others; and, while we lament these unfortunate calamities, we are glad to find that the Government is determined that the events and causes which gave rise to them shall undergo that investigation which justice requires.

We fully reciprocate the views expressed by Your Excellency with reference to the Revenue, and we have no doubt but the Legislature will speedily introduce a Bill to prevent any loss of Revenue to the Colony.

We regret that from many circumstances our public debt has been increased to £180,000, yet we entertain a belief that by a prudential management of financial matters, and a due regard to economy in the public expenditure, the resources of the Colony will be found sufficient to answer its requirements.