

Speech.

*fax.* A Survey of the proposed line has been undertaken by the Imperial Government, and is still in progress.

I shall submit for your information a Despatch from the Secretary of State, describing the course which Her Majesty's Government propose to take, in order to remedy the inconvenience which the Provinces of British *North America* appear to have sustained from the operation of the Imperial Statute for the protection of Copyright.

In view of the large Immigration which may be expected to take place this year, measures have been adopted for providing additional accommodation and medical attendance for the sick, and for increasing the means of forwarding the destitute to places where their labor may be required. An increased grant has been made by the Imperial Parliament in aid of this service. Although it is to be feared that there may be much want and suffering among certain classes of Immigrants who arrive this season, I have reason to believe that they will be accompanied by a greater number than usual of persons possessed of capital, who are likely to prove an acquisition to the Province.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I have directed the Accounts of the Revenue and Expenditure of the past year, with the Estimates for the current year, to be laid before you.

I observe with satisfaction that there is an increase in the Revenue derived from Public Works.

I rely on your making such provision for the maintenance of the establishments and credit of the Province as may be necessary to support the high character for probity and good faith which *Canada* has at all times maintained.

Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

We have reason to bless Providence for our exemption from the calamity of famine with which another part of the Empire has been so sorely afflicted, and I congratulate you on the liberality which the Inhabitants of this Colony of all classes and origins have evinced in contributing to the relief of their suffering fellow subjects.

I cannot refrain from adverting to the fact that among those whose generosity has been so conspicuous on this trying occasion, are our Indian Brethren.

The occurrences of the past year, though in some measure exceptional, indicate that there is a growing demand in *Europe* for the produce of this Continent, and render it highly important that the inhabitants of *Canada* should improve to the utmost its natural advantages, and those which attach to it as an integral part of an Empire, abounding in wealth and population.

I feel confident that you will duly appreciate the responsibility which rests on Parliament at this conjuncture, and that you will endeavour by wise Legislation to afford all practical extension and development to the trade and productive capabilities of the Province, and to give its institutions that hold on the affections of the people which is the foundation of public and private credit, and the best security for social progress.

In all measures calculated to effect these important objects, I am prepared heartily to cooperate with you; and I am authorized to renew the assurance of the earnest desire of our Gracious Queen, to promote the prosperity of *Canada* and the happiness of its people.

On motion of Mr. *Cauchon*, seconded by Mr. *Price*,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, to make out a new writ for the election of one Member to serve in the present Provincial Parliament for the Town of *London*, in the room of the Honorable *William Henry Draper* who hath resigned his seat.

London Writ.

On motion of Mr. *Cauchon*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Aylwin*,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, to make out a new writ for the election of one Member to serve in the present Provincial Parliament for the County of *Dorchester*, in the room of *Joseph André Taschereau*, Esquire, who, since his election, hath accepted the office of Circuit Judge for the District of *Quebec*.

Dorchester Writ.

On motion of Mr. *Smith of Frontenac*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *DeBligny*,

*Ordered*, That the Clerk be directed to charge to the Contingencies of the House, the postage on all letters not exceeding one ounce in weight, and on printed papers, to and from the Members of this House, during the present Session; provided that when Petitions to this House are enclosed, the postage thereon shall be charged without restriction as to weight; and that this Order do take effect from the first day of the present Session.

Postage on Letters to and from Members.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Cutley*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Macdonald*,

*Ordered*, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General, delivered on Wednesday last to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, be taken into consideration on Monday next.

His Excellency's Speech to be considered.

*Ordered*, That one hundred copies of the Draught of an Address in answer to the said Speech, be printed in each of the English and French languages, for the use of the Members of this House.

Draught of Address to be printed.

A Petition of *Louis Guillet*, Esquire, a Member of the House, was presented to the House by the Honorable Mr. *Morin*, and the same was received and read; setting forth: That at the last general Election the Petitioner was elected a Member for the County of *Champlain*, being at the same time entrusted as sub-agent with the administration of the Jesuits Estates in the District of *Three Rivers*, acknowledging as his immediate superior, the Honorable *John Stewart*, Chief Commissioner for the management of the said Estates: That although the Petitioner's position has not been altered with respect to his duties or his emoluments, he has become directly responsible to the Crown Land Department by virtue of recent arrangements adopted by the Government for the administration of the Jesuits Estates: That the Petitioner resides at *Batiscan*, where he discharges his said duties, being paid by commission on the monies collected by him: That the Petitioner has remarked that by the 7th Vic., chap. 65, it is among other things enacted, that all subordinate Clerks receiving annual salaries in the office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, shall be disqualified from being elected or returned as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, nor shall any such person or persons so disqualified be competent to sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly; and that if any person so disqualified, shall sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly, he shall incur a penalty of five hundred pounds, currency, for each and every day during which he shall have been so sitting and voting as aforesaid in the said Legislative Assembly: That not knowing whether he must be considered as coming within the operation of the said Act, and subject to the penalty thereby imposed for sitting in the House, the Petitioner can appeal to no other tribunal in order that it may be decided if his seat has become vacant; and praying the House will be pleased to pronounce their opinion without delay on the subject of the present Petition.

Petition of Mr. Guillet, a member, respecting his seat.

Then, on motion of Mr. *Sherwood*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Robinson*,

The House adjourned till Monday next.