

To that source we must also gratefully ascribe the success which, in the last season, has attended the industry of the Husbandman, and rewarded the toils of the Fisherman.

The Revenue, though somewhat diminished in productiveness, when compared with that of the preceding year, as was anticipated, from the reduction of Duties, and the first effects of suddenly expanded Commercial freedom, is nevertheless, amply sufficient to meet all demands upon it, and affords satisfactory evidence of the increased energies, and growing prosperity, of the people.

The Normal School—opened at Truro during the past Autumn, under circumstances most auspicious—is now in efficient operation.

A measure, having for its object the improvement of the general educational condition of the Country, will be submitted for your consideration.

Our Railway system is progressing favorably, and I trust that, when the Accounts of the expenditure, and liabilities, connected with it, are laid before you, the utmost prudence and economy will be found to have been observed by those to whom the Legislature has entrusted the conduct of this important branch of the public service.

The Reports and Accounts respecting St. Peter's Canal, and the Lunatic Asylum, when submitted to you, will show that those public works have advanced satisfactorily during the past season.

On the subject of the Mines and Minerals, in connexion with the claims of the General Mining Association, an opinion of the Imperial Law Officers of the Crown, and a Correspondence with the Colonial Secretary, will be laid before you, which will doubtless engage your most earnest attention.

A measure will be submitted to you, founded on the example of the Mother Country, and on our local experience, for facilitating the collection, and improving the administration, of the Revenue.

The substitution of a simpler and more economical process for revesting forfeited lands in the Crown, in place of the existing system, will be proposed to you by my Government.

The selections of Stock which I have made, in accordance with the desire, expressed in the closing Session of the last Parliament, will, I trust, commend themselves to your approval.

I venture to indulge a confident expectation that the further promotion of Agriculture, in its various relations, will, in the present Session, command the interest of the Representatives of a people thoroughly capable of appreciating the importance of that great object.

Some modification of the existing Laws for protection of the River Fisheries appears to me imperatively called for, and I trust that your local experience will suggest such improvement of them as will ensure the attainment of the purpose for which they were enacted.

You will be gratified, I am sure, to learn that I have resumed the occupation of Government House, seriously injured by the late fire, but renovated and refurnished in a style that bespeaks your munificence, whilst it demands my grateful acknowledgments.

The House of Assembly then withdrew, and His Excellency was pleased to retire soon after.

H. A. withdraw,  
H. E. retires.

Mr. Bell presented a Bill further to improve the administration of Criminal Justice—which was read a first time.

Bill pro forma read

*Ordered*, That the said Bill be read a second time at a future day.

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