

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

THURSDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1892.

THIS day, at Two o'clock, His Excellency the Governor in Chief came down in State to the Legislative Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the Gentlemen Usher of the Black Rod was sent down to the House of Assembly to command their attendance before His Excellency, and the House being come up, His Excellency was pleased to open the Third Session of the Fourteenth Provincial Parliament with the following Speech :—

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.*

I have called you together at the period precisely corresponding with that of your last year's meeting, being still under the impression that it is the best suited to the convenience of the majority of the Members of the two Houses of the Provincial Parliament.

It is, besides, peculiarly desirable that the present Session should commence at an early period, in order to afford sufficient time for bringing to maturity, such measures as were in progress at the close of the last Session, and for taking up the consideration of such measures as the growing wealth and prosperity of the Province may suggest.

The period having arrived for the effecting a new adjustment of the proportion to be paid to Upper Canada, of certain duties levied in this Province, the Commissioners nominated on the part of the two Provinces respectively, under the provisions of the Act of 3, Geo. IV. cap. 119, have recently met, and entered largely into the consideration of the subject, and although the discussion which ensued thereupon was conducted with no less cordiality, and good feeling, than with ability, and diligence on both sides, I am concerned at having to announce to you that the Commissioners have separated without coming to any decision upon the important question entrusted to their management; and having, moreover, differed in regard to the appointment, conjointly, of a third Commissioner or Arbitrator, it becomes necessary according to the provisions of the above mentioned Act, (section 17th) to refer the matter to His Majesty's Government, for the purpose of obtaining the appointment of an Arbitrator under the Royal sign manual.

The subject of the Currency has been brought under your notice upon more than one occasion during the last few years; but no practical measure having resulted from the consideration of it, I think it necessary to advert to it again; not so much with a view to the adoption of any general and comprehensive system, as to suggest the expediency of providing for the wants of the Public by the creation of a metallic currency of inferior value, to replace the small silver coin and copper now in circulation, the intrinsic value of which, (especially of the latter) is notoriously much below its current value.

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