

in the *New Forest* and *Waltham Forest*, in that part of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* called *England*, *Dunbar Ross*, Esquire, has been returned as duly elected accordingly, as appears by the return to the said Writ, dated the first day of May, instant, which is lodged of record in my office.

FELIX FORTIER,
C. C. C.

To *W. B. Lindsay*, Esquire,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Members take
their Seats.

The Honorable *Jean Chabot*, Member for the City of *Quebec*; *John Sewall Sanborn*, Esquire, Member for the County of *Sherbrooke*; *Caleb Hopkins*, Esquire, Member for the County of *Halton*; and the Honorable *William Hamilton Merritt*, Member for the County of *Lincoln*, having previously taken the Oath according to law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took their seats in the House.

Justices of the
Peace Oath of
Office Bill.

Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Attorney General *Baldwin* have leave to bring in a Bill to provide for the administration of the Oath of Office to persons appointed to be Justices of the Peace in this Province.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker
reports His Ex-
cellency's
Speech.

Mr. Speaker reported, That when the House did attend His Excellency the Governor General this day, in the Legislative Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, which he read to the House, as followeth:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I deeply regret to have to announce to you the death of the Queen Dowager, a Princess whose many virtues endeared her to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

The occurrences of the past year, and the necessity which had arisen for providing suitable accommodation for Parliament while in Session, having imposed on me the duty of considering during the Recess, the important subject embraced in the Address of the Legislative Assembly of last Session, relating to the places for holding the future Meetings of the Legislature, I have deemed it, after full deliberation, advisable to give effect to the prayer of that Address by summoning you to meet at this place.

The important changes recently made in the Imperial Navigation Laws, and the improvements effected in the Provincial Canals, will, I trust, tend to promote materially the commercial interests of the Province, and to attract to the route of the *St. Lawrence* a considerable portion of the Emigration from *Europe* to this Continent.

It affords me much gratification to be enabled to inform you, that recent advices from *England* indicate a marked improvement in the value of Canadian securities in the British market. Your deliberations will, I feel satisfied, have a tendency to encourage the reviving confidence.

I am very sensible of the great importance to these Colonies of placing the trade between the British North American Provinces on the most unrestricted footing. I have been in communication during the Recess, upon this subject, with the Lieutenant-Governors of *Nova Scotia*, *New Brunswick*, and *Prince Edward Island*, and with the Governor of *Newfoundland*. I recommend to your consideration the expediency of giving such powers to this Go-

vernment, as may enable it to meet the advances of the Sister Colonies in a liberal spirit.

The Act passed last Session for the establishment of reciprocal free trade between *Canada* and the *United States* in certain articles the natural products of each, has not yet come into operation. I am informed that a corresponding measure is now under the consideration of the Congress of the *United States*.

By an Act passed during the last Session of the Imperial Parliament the entire control of the internal Posts in *British North America* is vested in the Provincial authorities. Whatever further action on the part of the Canadian Legislature may be necessary in order to secure for the inhabitants of these Provinces the benefits of a cheap and uniform postage rate, you will, I feel confident, be prepared to adopt.

The expediency of effecting an increase in the Parliamentary Representation of the Province will probably again engage your attention.

A measure will be submitted for your consideration founded on the Report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the conduct, discipline, and management of the Provincial Penitentiary. The increasing wealth and population of the Province, and the growing aversion to capital punishment, render it highly important that the system of discipline established in the Provincial Penitentiary and Gaols should be made as far as possible effectual for the prevention of crime and the reformation of offenders.

I shall lay before you communications from Her Majesty's Commissioners for the promotion of the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations to be held in *London* in 1851, which have been transmitted to me by the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies. I venture to express the hope that Canadian industry and produce will be fittingly represented on that interesting occasion.

In pursuance of the Act of last Session, the practice and proceedings in the Court of Chancery in *Upper Canada* have been placed upon an improved footing calculated to facilitate the business of the Court, and lessen expense to suitors. I shall direct copies of the Rules which have been promulgated for this purpose to be laid before you.

I would recommend as of analogous, and perhaps even equal importance, the consideration of the jurisdiction and practice of the Inferior Courts in that part of the Province, with a view to the extension of their sphere of usefulness, and the lessening as much as possible the expense of litigation.

The regulation of Municipalities, and the construction of Gaols and Court Houses in *Lower Canada*, and the laws for the selection and return of Jurors, and those for the Assessment of property for local purposes in *Upper Canada*, are among the subjects which will doubtless engage your attention.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I shall direct the Public Accounts, with the Estimates for the year, to be laid before you.

I recommend to your attention an enquiry into the Revenue and Expenditure of the Province.

I rely on your readiness to grant the Supplies which are necessary for the public service, and for the maintenance of the Provincial credit.

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

I have deemed it to be my duty, in the exercise of the Prerogative with which I am entrusted, to mark Her Majesty's disapprobation of the course taken by persons holding Commissions at the pleasure of the Crown who have formally avowed the desire to bring about the separation of this Province from the Empire of which it is a part.

The views put forward by these persons and by those who act with them, do not, I have reason to believe, find favor with any considerable portion of Her Majesty's Canadian subjects.