

which has been displayed, and the efficiency which has been attained by the Companies now established, deserve this at your hands. All effort which shows self-reliance, induces respect for the community; and I believe the moral influence of well-disciplined Volunteer Protective Forces, as regards the preservation of internal order, to be much greater than is commonly attributed to them by inattentive observers.

The useful measure passed in 1863 for the regulation of the Currency has, in accordance with the provisions of the 15th Section, been put into force by Proclamation, from the beginning of this year. A sufficient quantity of Copper Coinage has been imported to give effect to the intention of the Legislature, by superseding the debased Copper Currency hitherto in circulation; and gold and silver coins are in preparation at the Royal Mint, for more fully carrying out the design of the enactment. I do not doubt that you will see the propriety of still further perfecting the adjustment of the metallic Currency of the Colony, by doing what is necessary to call in the silver coin of value inferior to its nominal worth, which is still current in the Colony to a considerable amount.

Compilation and consolidation of the local laws is a subject worthy of your consideration. It is a work which cannot be performed effectually without authority given by the Legislature. But the necessary expense will not be great, while what is unavoidable will be more than compensated by the great advantage to be derived from placing at the command of every member of the community a codification, in condensed form, of the laws actually in force. These at present have to be sought among a mass of obsolete and repealed enactments; and in some cases no printed copies of the laws can be procured.

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Honorable House of Assembly :*

The Public Accounts for 1864, and the Estimates for the current year, will be promptly laid before you. It will be gratifying to you that the former show a Revenue, during the last year, of more than average amount. The supplies which you will be asked to grant are estimated with a due regard to economy, keeping in view public interests and requirements, as you will bear in mind that effective thrift, in fiscal administration, scarcely consists so much in mere abstinence from expenditure as in the judicious use of means for the development of public services, the promotion of the common welfare, and the general progress of the community.

*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Council :*

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Honorable House of Assembly :*

You will be furnished with the Report of the Delegates from the several British North American Provinces, who met at Quebec in October last, to consider a proposition for the Confederation of these Colonies, and with a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State upon this im-