

Mr. SPEAKER,—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor has commanded me to assure you that he will recognize the constitutional privileges of the Assembly, that they will always find a ready access to him on all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings as well as your words and actions will receive from him the most favourable construction.

The House being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that the House had been in the Legislative Council Chamber, where his Excellency had been pleased to approve the choice the House had made of him to be their Speaker.

And then Mr. Speaker repeated his most respectful acknowledgements to the House for the honour they had done him.

Then leave was given to introduce a Bill to continue the act to facilitate the administration of Justice in certain small matters therein mentioned, and the said Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

After which Mr. Speaker reported that when the House attended his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, this day, in the Legislative Council Chamber, his Excellency had been pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker to prevent mistakes, had obtained a copy, which he read to the House, and is as followeth :—

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

The administration of the government of this Colony having devolved upon me, in consequence of the absence of his Excellency the Governor in Chief, I have judged it expedient to call you together at a season of the year, which I am led to consider as the best suited to your private convenience, and as affording the greatest portion of leisure for the despatch of public business.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I shall, with as little delay as possible, cause to be laid before you an account of the Provincial Revenue of the Crown, and of the expenditure of the Civil Establishment during the last year, accompanied by such statements and returns as will enable you to judge of the resources of this rising colony, and of the means which it possesses to provide for the Civil Expenditure of the Provincial Government, and to promote internal improvement, without the imposition of duties upon its commerce or its industry, to an extent that can be felt as a burden by its inhabitants.

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

Persuaded as I am of your devotion to the best of Sovereigns, and of your earnest desire to promote the general welfare of your fellow subjects, for whom you are called to legislate, I cannot but anticipate the most beneficial results from your proceedings.

Although entering for the first time on the administration of the government, I have resided long enough in the Province to become personally acquainted with most of you, and it affords me the highest gratification to declare that I have not, in any part of the King's dominions, remarked a firmer attachment to his Majesty's Person and Government than I have observed in you individually. I have, therefore, the best ground to rely upon your collective exertions. I trust, Gentlemen, that you will cordially unite, for the purpose of doing away any difficulties which may heretofore have arisen, and for preventing, by an amicable arrangement of the Financial Concerns of the Province, the recurrence of such difficulties in future.

The abundance of the late harvest, and the increasing prosperity of the province, are subjects of heartfelt congratulation to us all: a state of