

Address in answer
to Speech at opening
of Session.

communication addressed to the Governor of the State of New-York, and to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, by Your Excellency, in full confidence that they will contain an explicit assurance that we need not apprehend any further aggression on the part of the citizens of the United States, or from any portion of their territory upon the Province of Upper Canada;—and we rejoice to hear, that, in the meantime, the defence of the frontier is entrusted to the gallant Militia, and that Your Excellency has made arrangements for calling forth the whole strength of the country, should circumstances render such a course necessary. The complete success that has attended the operations ably planned and gallantly executed by that distinguished commander, Lieut. General Sir John Colborne, in Lower Canada, and the brave officers and men, militia and troops of the line, under his command, claims our warmest admiration and thanks. We, however, are deeply sensible that to an overruling Providence we are indebted for the preservation and protection with which we have been so signally blessed. And we humbly trust to that divine and merciful Power to put a speedy termination to the dissensions that have so deeply affected the peace of these Provinces.

We shall direct our attention to the public accounts and to a consideration of the estimates for the ensuing year, as soon as they shall be laid before us.

We will not fail to provide for the proper support of the Civil Government; and, should an expenditure of a more than ordinary character be requisite for the safety of the Province, we shall not hesitate in making such a provision as the exigency of the case may require.

The propriety of indemnifying any of the inhabitants of this Province who have sustained serious losses from the outrageous acts of the insurgents, and of providing pensions for the very few subjects of Her Majesty who may have been disabled by wounds received in defence of their laws, will engage our serious consideration. We shall not fail to devote our earliest attention to such measures as are called for by the present state of affairs, and as will tend to secure the safety of the Province; and, in favour of these important objects, we shall postpone the consideration of such matters as the interests of the Country do not require should be at once attended to.

We feel that the people who at this inclement season forsook their families and rushed in thousands to the defence of their independence and their laws, deserve that every exertion should be made by us for their future protection, and we are sensible of the necessity that exists of providing for the suppression of such guilty proceedings as were displayed in the recent insurrection in their earliest stages.

We trust, that, in the exercise of a sound discretion, we shall be able to devise such measures as may be best suited for maintaining the public tranquillity and for protecting the lives and properties of Her Majesty's subjects.

Our most serious consideration shall also be directed to the means of preventing or repelling such hostile aggressions by the people of a friendly power as the frontier at present exhibits, and we confidently believe that we shall be able to maintain the safety and honour of the Province as an integral portion of the British Empire;—that, watchful over the designs of our enemies, and prompt in firmly resisting their attacks, the people will endeavour to sustain their character as a British Province, and to show themselves worthy of the land from which they and their forefathers have sprung.

Commons House of Assembly, }
1st day of January, 1838.

H. RUTTAN,
Speaker.

On motion of Mr. Boulton, seconded by Mr. Cartwright,
Ordered—That Messrs. Sherwood and Morris be a Committee to

wait on His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to know when he will be pleased to receive the Address of this House in answer to the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. Sherwood, from the Committee to wait on His Excellency to know when he would be pleased to receive this House with its Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the present Session, reported that His Excellency would receive the House forthwith.

The House then waited upon His Excellency with the Address, and being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that His Excellency had been pleased to make thereto the following Reply:—

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,—

I thank you for, and duly appreciate, the loyal and patriotic sentiments contained in your Address.

On motion of Mr. Boulton, seconded by Mr. Caldwell,

Ordered—That 1000 copies of the Address in Answer to the Speech from the Throne be printed for the use of Members, as also the like number of His Excellency's Reply.

Committee to wait on
His Excellency respect-
ing Address.

His Excellency will
receive the House with
the Address forthwith.

House waits on His
Excellency accordingly.

His Excellency's reply.

1000 copies of Address
and reply to be printed.