

an increased demand for this one of our staple exports; which, combined with the advantages we possess for Ship building, may enable us to compete with any Nation.

We are sensible of the growing importance of cultivating a greater freedom of intercourse, as well between these Provinces as with Foreign Countries, upon terms of reciprocity; and we are much gratified by Your Excellency's assurance, that Her Majesty's Government at home are anxious to concur in any measure for this object.

Impressed with the great importance of improving the Communication between the Bay of Fundy and the River Saint Lawrence, we have much satisfaction in learning from Your Excellency that steps have been taken, under the Act of last Session, for a careful examination and survey of the impediments to the River Navigation between Fredericton and the Grand Falls, and we look with much interest for the Report of the Officers employed for this service.

We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that the Reports of the Survey of a Line of Railway between Shediac and Saint John, and also on the Fisheries on our Coast, shall be laid before us; and Your Excellency may rely on our disposition to give these subjects an attentive consideration.

The great advantages to be derived from a consolidation of the Laws will secure to that subject the attention which its importance demands.

We deeply feel the disadvantages under which the Province now labours, from the continuance of the present system of Postal arrangements, and will earnestly address ourselves to the consideration of any measure tending to their improvement.

We assure Your Excellency that our zeal in the cause of Education continues unabated. While we cannot disguise from ourselves the imperfections which must be admitted to exist in the Laws regulating the Common Schools, we shall endeavour to make such improvements as may secure greater efficiency in these establishments.

We share in the regret expressed by Your Excellency that no settlement of the Canadian Boundary has yet taken place. We trust that its importance to the welfare of both the Provinces immediately interested in the question will lead to its speedy adjustment.

We are happy to learn from Your Excellency that rules and regulations have been framed for carrying into effect the provisions made by Law for the settlement of Crown Lands. The topics in connexion with this subject to which our attention is invited shall engage our deliberation; and we assure Your Excellency that any measure which may tend to secure comfort and health to the Emigrants from the Mother Country, will be regarded most favourably by us.

The highly important subject of the initiation of money votes, and in connexion therewith of local control over local charges, to which Your Excellency has adverted, shall receive all the attention it is competent to this branch of the Legislature to bestow.

Whenever any measure for the extension of the powers of the Audit Office can be devised by which a judicious improvement in that department of the public service may be effected, we will cheerfully lend our aid for its accomplishment.

We thank Your Excellency for the confidence you express that our deliberations will be guided by a spirit of loyalty to the Queen and zeal for the public good, and it will be our pleasing duty to endeavour to justify this confidence.

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