

exceeding in strength the amount prescribed by Law, and has thus relieved me from the necessity of having recourse to a draft to complete the required number. The martial spirit which has been displayed by those who have voluntarily undertaken novel and, in some cases, irksome duties, convinces me that the men of New Brunswick are sensible of the necessity of fitting themselves, if need be, to discharge the sacred obligation of self-defence, and merits the expression of my warm approval.

"I recommend to your serious attention the present condition of the Fisheries of the Province. Reports which I have directed to be laid before you, will go far to show that the River and Coast Fisheries are threatened at no distant period with extinction. I rely with confidence on your wisdom for the adoption of adequate remedies for the evils which menace with destruction this important source of Provincial wealth.

"The introduction of the Post Office Money Order System in the neighbouring Colonies, affording as it does increased facilities for the safe transmission of Money by the public, renders the question of its adoption in this Province worthy of your consideration.

"Although the War in the United States still exercises a baneful influence throughout this Continent, I rejoice to be enabled to inform you that commercial enterprise has been directed into new channels, and is again reviving; a greatly increased activity prevails in our Ship Yards, and there are marked symptoms of improvement in other branches of industry.

"The Province has been blessed with an abundant Harvest, and agricultural labour has been attended with success. It would, however, afford me pleasure to witness a greater amount of individual enterprise directed towards the development of the Mineral resources of the Province.

"Since the recess, the new Silver Coinage has been received and put into circulation.

"It affords me sincere gratification to assure you that, although the Income of the past year has fallen somewhat below the Estimate, the Receipts on every branch of the Revenue for the Quarter just expired, very greatly exceed those of the corresponding period for the last two years.

*"Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"The Accounts of the Revenue and Expenditure for the past year will be laid before you, together with the Estimates for the current year.

"The Act under which the existing Customs Duties are levied will shortly expire. The questions relating to the Tariff which will consequently arise, will no doubt receive your early attention.

*"Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

*"Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"In again resorting to your assistance and advice, it is a source of satisfaction to me to reflect that content prevails throughout the Province, and that your deliberations may be directed to the consideration of the public good, free from the distracting influences of party factions or popular excitement.

"The even and uneventful tenor of public affairs in this Province during the past year itself evinces our fortunate condition. Living in undisturbed tranquillity,—our personal liberties and property unmenaced by arbitrary violence or exaction,—in the enjoyment of unimpaired credit,—and free from the pressure of those public burdens which the exigencies of War impose,—our thanks are due to Almighty God who has spared us from the calamities which have fallen so heavily on a neighbouring and a kindred people."