

THURSDAY, 31st JANUARY, 1828.

Exports from the Province of its Chief Staple--a circumstance to which I beg to call your attention, earnestly recommending this valuable Branch of Industry to your liberal encouragement.

Deeply impressed with the importance of establishing Common Schools throughout the Province, I cannot but express my regret that the Act passed in 1826, has only accomplished that object in a partial degree; In some Counties, indeed, no steps have been taken to carry any of the Provisions of the Law into effect, and Schools, established by the Inhabitants, and supported by voluntary subscriptions, have been thus deprived of all participation in the Provincial Grant. I recommend a Revision of the Act, and the subject of Education generally to your consideration.

You will be happy to learn that considerable progress has been made in the Shubenacadie Canal, and that Mining Establishments have been formed in the County of Annapolis, and the District of Pictou, which promise to be of the greatest advantage to the Province.

The Vote of the last Session has enabled me to effect some very beneficial Alterations in the Great Roads, and to cause extensive Surveys to be made, with the view of ascertaining the practicability of materially improving the internal Communications of the Country,--an object of primary importance to its Welfare and Prosperity, and one to which I feel persuaded you will give every attention.

I shall direct these Surveys to be laid before you, and take an early opportunity of submitting to you a Plan (the result of personal observations made during my visit to the Interior of the Country) for improving the present System of Expending the Provincial Grants for this important Branch of the Public Service.

I continue to receive very satisfactory Reports of the state of the Militia, from the Inspecting Field Officers;--The good order and discipline of many of the Battalions are deserving of great praise,--and in all the Arrangements of this Constitutional Force, it is my endeavour to consult, as much as possible, the convenience of the Inhabitants.

Measures are now in progress for ascertaining the Population and Agricultural Resources of the Province, and I hope to be enabled to lay the result before you in the course of the Session.

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

I shall direct the Public Accounts to be immediately laid before you, and also the usual Estimate for the support of His Majesty's Government; confidently relying on your granting the necessary Supplies with your accustomed liberality.

You will find, upon an examination of the Accounts, that the Revenue continues to be collected with great regularity, and punctually paid into the Treasury by the Officers of the Department, who in general discharge their duties with zeal and fidelity.

*Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council,
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

When we look around us, and compare our situation in this portion of His Majesty's Dominions, with that of almost any other People, we cannot be too thankful to the Giver of all Good for the manifold blessings which we enjoy--Peace and Prosperity--perfect protection for life and property under Laws impartially administered--Civil and Religious Liberty--an almost total exemption from taxes--the rare occurrence of crime, and the absence of all political faction, are some of the substantial blessings enjoyed by the Inhabitants of Nova-Scotia under the powerful protection of the Parent State; and the admirable tone of public feeling, which prevails among all classes of the community, is a proof that they are not insensible of the happiness of their condition.