

JOURNAL
OF THE
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Third Session of the Seventeenth General Assembly.

TUESDAY, February 20, 1849.

THE House having, by several Proclamations, been prorogued until this day, then to meet for the dispatch of business:

And being met—

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by Henry Palmer, Esquire, Usher of the Black Rod:

Mr. Speaker;

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor commands the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker and the House went up to attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber—and being returned,

Mr. Speaker reported, that when the House did attend His Excellency this day in the Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Legislature, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, which he read to the House, and is as followeth:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;

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

I have called you together at a season of the year which I believe to be best suited to your convenience, for the consideration of such Legislative measures as

the circumstances of the Island may demand, and I feel assured that in deliberating upon the various questions which will occupy your attention, you will be actuated by the desire of promoting the public good.

You will be gratified to learn that all the important Bills which were passed in the last Session, have been assented to by Her Majesty, and that they are now in operation.

The Bill to provide for the better Administration of Justice, by authorising the appointment of an Assistant Judge and Master of the Rolls, has already been attended with much advantage, and I have no doubt that this desirable measure, dictated by a liberal and enlightened policy, will prove a permanent benefit to the Colony.

It will be my duty, at an early period of the Session to invite your attention to a Despatch communicating the views of Her Majesty's Government, respecting the future payment of the Civil Establishment of the Island. I have received Despatches upon other subjects connected with the present and future interests of the Colony, which will also claim your attention.

Since we last met, I have visited many parts of the Island, and being impressed with the conviction that good Roads are indispensable to the prosperity of a new country, I recommend to your consideration whether an improvement may not be effected in the present management of the Roads and Bridges, by placing them under the supervision of scientific and experienced men.

The increased population of Charlottetown, and its