

A beneficent Providence has again blessed us with an abundant harvest ; and the state of the Revenue, which exceeds in amount that of the previous year, is satisfactory.

I must not, however, omit to direct your attention to the probable diminution of Revenue in the current year, which there is but too much reason to apprehend will follow from the depression so universally experienced at present in all branches of commercial industry, and from which this community is not exempt.

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

The Accounts of the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, shall be laid before you, and I rely on your readiness to grant the necessary Supplies for the public service.

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

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

The circumstances of the last Session having been such as to prevent Her Majesty's Government from proposing to Parliament to guarantee the Loan intended to be raised for the purchase of Lands in this Island, that measure was unavoidably postponed to the present Session of the Imperial Parliament.

A Copy of a Despatch from the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, on this subject, shall be communicated to you.

The Mutiny which has so lamentably disturbed Her Majesty's East Indian possessions has already been reduced, by British valor and heroism, to a point which leaves no room to doubt its final suppression ; but the unexampled atrocity by which it has been characterized has occasioned a vast amount of destitution and suffering to the surviving victims, which appeals forcibly on their behalf to the generous sympathy of their fellow subjects in all parts of Her Majesty's dominions.

I must again earnestly recommend to your consideration the adoption of more efficient means for the suppression of illicit traffic, which there is no reason to doubt is still carried on in this Island, to the great prejudice of the morals of the people, and to the serious injury of the Revenue.

I have great pleasure in referring to the improvement which, during the past year, has been manifested in the prosecution of the Fisheries, which, if hereafter continued, will doubtless add much to the welfare, and increase the wealth and prosperity of the Country.

The marked improvement in Agriculture and Farm Stock throughout this Island is, under Providence, attributable to the liberal grants made by the Legislature for the encouragement of that important branch of industry; and I have no doubt that your fostering care will still be extended to so desirable an object.

You do not, I trust, require to be assured of my ready co-operation in any measures you may entertain for the honor and advantage of the Island.

The Speech being ended, and the House of Assembly having withdrawn, His Excellency was pleased to retire.

Prayers were then read.

*Mr. President* reported His Excellency's Speech, which being read by the Clerk—