

when you have had time to examine the state of the revenue, whether you can, with due regard to the public credit, resume operations in the spring.

Much inconvenience has been felt by the stoppage of the trains at Richmond, and a heavy tax is paid for the transportation of passengers, country produce and merchandize, to and from the centre of the City.

A survey has been conducted, with a view to provide greater facilities, and when the plans and estimates are submitted, you will be able to decide whether the country can afford to give to its industry this further measure of relief.

Shortly after the close of the last Session, the attention of the Government was called to the unsatisfactory condition of the Provincial Hospital for the Insane. A rigid enquiry was instituted into its management, which was found to be very extravagant. The financial administration was promptly transferred to the Board of Works, and you will be pleased to learn, that while harmony has been restored in the internal economy of the institution, a large saving has been effected in the annual expenditure.

Your attention will be called to a measure for connecting the Island of Cape Breton with the mainland, by a Steam Ferry across the Strait of Canso, and for connecting, by steam, Hantsport, Cornwallis and Cumberland, with the Railway terminus at Windsor. You will be also asked to sanction the erection of a public Wharf at Digby, the completion of new Roads from Mills Village to LaHave, from Plaister Cove towards Baddeck, and other public works, for which the ordinary resources of the Counties have been hitherto found inadequate to provide.

In accordance with the policy suggested in a despatch received from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, I have caused a Board of Statistics to be duly organized, under the laws of the Province, and proceedings are in progress for taking a Census on the thirtieth day of March next.

The anomalies, so apparent in the representation, and the imperfections in the Act of 1859, suggest a new adjustment of the division lines of districts, and re-distribution of the franchise.

Your attention will be directed to those subjects, and to a measure, based upon the English Statutes, for ensuring greater purity in the conduct of elections.

While our neighbours are passing through trials the most severe, and are menaced with civil war, we ought, in resuming our Legislative labors, to be thankful to the Giver of all Good, for the permanence of our Institutions, and for the freedom and tranquility they secure.

The House of Assembly then withdrew.

H. A. withdrew.

After a short time the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod again received His Excellency's command to let the House of Assembly know "It is His Excellency's will and pleasure they attend him immediately in this House," who being come, the President of this House by His Excellency's desire, said:

H. A. again summoned.

The House of Assembly having communicated to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that Stewart Campbell, Esquire, has resigned the office of Speaker, and that his resignation has been accepted by the House, and that the House is without a Speaker, it is His Excellency's will and pleasure that the Gentlemen of the House of Assembly do repair to the place in which they usually sit, and there elect a Speaker, and present him here for His Excellency's approbation.

H. A. directed to choose Speaker.

The House of Assembly then retired, and, after a short time having returned, the Hon. Joseph Howe, one of the members for the County of Hants, addressed His Excellency as follows:

H. A. withdrew and return.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The House of Assembly, agreeably to your Excellency's command, have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and have elected the Honble. Alexander

Speaker presented.