

Monday, 6th February, 1865.

Pursuant to Order of the Day, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, upon the further consideration of the Address of Thanks in reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor at the opening of the Session.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair.

Mr. KNIGHT took the Chair of the Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The Chairman reported from the Committee, that they had considered the Address to them referred, and had passed the same, without amendment, and he handed the Address in at the Clerk's table, where it was read, as follows :—

*To His Excellency ANTHONY MUSGRAVE, Esquire,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief, in and over
the Island of Newfoundland and its Depend-
encies.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, the Representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the inhabitants of Newfoundland, in General Assembly convened, beg to thank Your Excellency for the Gracious Speech with which Your Excellency has been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature.

We avail ourselves of this, the first opportunity afforded us, of greeting Your Excellency with a hearty welcome, as the Representative of our beloved Sovereign, to preside over this ancient Colony of Newfoundland. We cordially reciprocate those feelings which have prompted Your Excellency to give expression to such enlightened views respecting the mutual confidence and co-operation of the several branches of the Legislature, requisite to insure to the people the blessings which flow from an efficient administration of the constitutional form of Government under which it is our privilege to live ; and in assisting to carry out the principles of that system of Government, we shall thankfully receive and seriously consider all suggestions emanating from Your Excellency ; our sole object being to promote the general welfare.

In common with Your Excellency, we deplore the unproductiveness of our Fisheries during the past year, and the poverty to which large numbers engaged in this staple industry of the country have been thereby reduced, and by which serious demands have been entailed upon our revenue.

We are fully alive to the evils consequent upon the system of poor relief so long in force amongst us ; and whilst in acknowledging the soundness of the principles advocated by Your Excellency, we feel that in the peculiar circumstances of this Colony there are obstacles to an effective