

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

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

" ALTHOUGH the situation of the Province did not require that I should convene you before the usual period of the year, I am not insensible that there are important interests at this time depending on the result of your deliberations.

" The birth of another Princess, since I last met you, has been a source of increased happiness to Her Majesty, and of gratification to Her loyal subjects.

" The general tranquillity now happily prevailing and the relations subsisting between England and the remotest parts of the World, are highly favorable to British enterprize, and I congratulate you on the participation of this Province in the revival of General Commerce.

" The severe pressure to which all classes have been so long subject, although not wholly relieved, has been materially alleviated. The favorable harvest of the last year has given occasion for renewed thankfulness, and will lead the people to regard the pursuits of Agriculture as a primary source of their prosperity.

" Considering the vast extent of the unappropriated Lands of the Crown, I invite your attention to the means of facilitating their Settlement.

" Some Legislative provision is also required for the management of the Indian reserved Lands, constituting some of the most valuable tracts within the Province, and from which a fund may be derived, adequate to meet all the expenses incidental to the present condition of the Indian population.

" Looking to the claims of a new Country to support in those branches of enterprize which are essential to its prosperity, I recommend to you to afford such encouragement as may be practicable to Agriculture, the Fisheries, and to Domestic Manufactures.

" The liberal appropriations you have made for the support of Schools, attest the importance which you justly attach to the Education of the People. As the Act for the support of the Parish Schools will expire in 1845, a careful inspection during the present year of the whole of the Parish Schools throughout the Province, would, with the aid of a Training and Model School, facilitate the adoption of an improved and comprehensive system for their more efficient management.

" The salutary effects of the regulations which were framed in the last year for the Penitentiary at Saint John, of which the Reports will be laid before you, encourage me to recommend that they may be applied, so far as may be practicable, in the other Provincial Prisons.

" Some alteration is called for in the Laws for the regulation of Savings' Banks, and for the due protection of the funds of the industrious classes deposited in them.

" Her Majesty's Government having consented to the passing of an Act for the Consolidation of the Departments of Revenue, I recommend to you the adoption of such arrangements as will increase the efficiency and diminish the expenses of the local Establishments.

" The Act of the last Session relating to the collection of a reduced Duty on Timber and other Lumber, will, I hope, admit of such alterations as will obviate the objection which has been found to apply to it.

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

" I am gratified in being able to inform you that the Revenue in the last year has materially