

His Excellency's Speech.

Of the "Act for declaring all property in Newfoundland Real Chattels," the proviso at the end of the first clause is deemed objectionable. I am consequently directed "to recommend to you to pass an act in amendment of the present for the repeal of this provision, and in the meantime his Majesty's decision will be suspended."

The only act of the last session upon which his Majesty's pleasure has been signified to me is that "for limiting the duration of the Parliaments of this Colony." His Majesty has suspended his decision upon this act also in consequence of a peculiarity in its form; but it is left to you to prepare a bill "in the appropriate style, as the enactment of the *Governor, Council, and House of Assembly*," to which I am empowered to assent on his Majesty's behalf.

I am authorized by his Majesty's Government to suggest the expediency of dating the commencement of the quadrennial period of the present House of Assembly from the close of this session, so that its existence may be legally continued until 1840, should circumstances render unadvisable an earlier dissolution. "If the Local Legislature shall be willing to leave in the hands of the Executive Government such a discretion, it will be satisfactory to his Majesty to learn that the proposed law has been framed in that manner." I am, however, expressly directed to inform you, that this is a matter entirely for your consideration; and let your determination respecting it be what it may the bill will not require a suspending clause.

Extracts of the Despatches from his Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, shall be prepared for you, that you may be fully acquainted with the objections made to the *proviso* of the second and the *form* of the last named act.

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly—*

It affords me much gratification to inform you that the revenue has proved so productive as to enable me to call in the "Treasury Notes," all interest on which, accordingly, ceased on the 19th day of December.

The Estimate for the approaching financial year shall be laid before you without delay.

His Majesty's Government has decided that the Brig *Maria*, hitherto attached to the service of this Island, shall no longer be supported by the Parent State; you will therefore resolve whether she shall be maintained in future by Colonial resources, or dismissed.

In the latter case I shall be compelled to forego my intended inspection of the outports in the ensuing summer, unless you think proper to provide some other similar means of conveyance.

I have been directed to defray the charge of keeping the Government Buildings in repair from the Rent Fund when sufficient for that purpose. This item will consequently not appear upon the Estimate for 1836.

I can assure you of my continued desire to practise the strictest economy in the public expenditure.

*Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Council—*

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly—*

I am desirous of offering for your early and careful deliberation the important subject of our Magistracy and Police.

Although great good is derived from the exertions of gentlemen in the commission of the Peace, yet an entire abandonment of private pursuits, and an exclusive gratuitous devotion to public interests, cannot reasonably be expected.

You will reflect whether the number of Stipendiary Magistrates may be advantageously enlarged; and whether such functionaries, aided by honorary services, and supported by a sufficient constabulary, would not prove most effectual in the maintenance of individual safety and general tranquillity. Prevention of crime is ever better than punishment; but