

the Members thereof during the Session may be freed from molestation—that they may have freedom of speech in their debates—have the power of punishing their own members—and have free access to your Excellency on all occasions; and I do also, in their name and behalf, beg leave to claim all their ancient rights and privileges.”

Then the President of His Majesty's Council replied as follows:

“*Mr. Speaker,*

“I am commanded by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to say, that his Excellency, being fully assured of the prudence, loyalty, and good affection of the House of Assembly, does most willingly grant to them all their privileges, in as full a manner as they have been at any time granted by his Excellency or any former Governor of this Island.”

His Excellency was then pleased to open the Session with the following Speech:

“*Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council:*

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

“WITH feelings of deep sorrow I announce to you the demise of our late lamented Sovereign King George the Fourth, by which the Crown has devolved on His Most Gracious Majesty King William the Fourth.

“The late Provincial Parliament was, in consequence, dissolved, and I lost no time in directing Writs to be issued for the election of a new Assembly, and I feel much satisfaction in now meeting you in your legislative capacity.

“It affords me heartfelt pleasure to be enabled to congratulate you on the abundance of the late harvest, and on that spirit of improvement which evidently appears dawning on the Agriculture of the Colony—a branch of industry in all ages considered the main source of wealth and individual happiness.

“I feel equal satisfaction in being also enabled to congratulate you on a material increase in the Revenue over the receipts of last year.

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

“The Public Accounts will be laid before you; and I rely on your good feeling and judgment in making such provision for the current year as the Public Service may require.

“*Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council:*

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

“Persuaded by experience that when a spirit of cordiality is preserved between the several Branches of the Legislature, the true interests of the Colony are best promoted—I recommend to you a cultivation and continuance of the harmony which pervaded the last Session of the General Assembly; and I have no doubt the result of your united deliberations will prove beneficial to the country.” (Signed) J. READY.”

The Speech being ended, his Excellency was pleased to retire, and the House of Assembly being withdrawn, the President reported his Excellency's Speech, which being read by the Clerk—

Resolved, *nem. con.* that an humble address be presented to his Excellency, to return his Excellency the thanks of this House for his Speech delivered this day:

When the Honorables *T. H. Haviland* and *The Attorney General* were appointed a Committee to prepare a draft, pursuant to the above resolution.

On motion, ordered, that The Honorables *A. Lane* and *T. H. Haviland* be appointed a Committee to revise the Journals of this House, each day.

On motion, ordered, that The Honorables *George Wright* and *Charles Worrall* be appointed a Committee to examine into and report upon such Laws as are near expiring.