

## WEDNESDAY, January 26, 1842.

**M**R. THOMSON, from the Special Committee appointed to prepare and report the draught of an Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to both Houses, at the opening of the present Session, reported the draught of an Address, as prepared by the Committee—and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as followeth:—

*To His Excellency Sir HENRY VERE HUNTLEY, Knight, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island Prince Edward, and the Territories therunto belonging, Chancellor, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.*

May it please your Excellency;

We Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Representatives of the people of Prince Edward Island, in Colonial Parliament assembled, most respectfully thank your Excellency for your Speech at the opening of the present Session.

With heartfelt sentiments of respect and devotion we join with your Excellency in your congratulations upon the Birth of a Prince, Heir apparent to the Throne of the British Empire, and also upon the perfect restoration of Her Majesty to health—blessings which demand our profound thankfulness to the Almighty, for his protecting care, which have filled all hearts, throughout every portion of these realms with confidence and joy, and call forth feelings of the warmest loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty.

Few subjects of public interest claim our attention more particularly than that of Education. We shall, therefore give our best consideration to the examination of the system by which the Central Academy is governed, with a view to its improvement, and in order that it may be rendered more useful to the Colony, and thereby attain a higher position in the public estimation. The House of Assembly will also give Education generally that consideration which the great importance of the subject demands, well knowing that the best interests of the Colony are chiefly dependent upon the intelligence of its Inhabitants, and that "deception, bigotry and crime diminish under its increase."

All communications which your Excellency may be pleased to make during the Session shall receive our best attention.

When the Public Accounts and Estimates are placed before us and audited, we will vote such supplies as the state of the Finances will admit of, and the public exigencies require.

It is matter of deep regret to the House of Assembly, that the numerous public works required in this Island have, up to this period, so far trenched upon its resources as to leave in abeyance a matter of such importance as the keeping of the Public Records in a place of safety. The House of Assembly will, at an early day, deliberate on the expediency of granting a further sum, to make the contemplated Building of such an extent as to meet the growing wants of the Colony.

We fully concur with your Excellency, that the prosperity of this Colony is mainly dependent upon its Agriculture, and we beg to assure your Excellency, that any measure calculated to promote its advancement will receive our cordial support.

We sincerely regret that the establishment of an Asylum for "Insane persons and other objects of Charity," has been so long delayed. This House can have no wish to encroach on the prerogative of the Executive, or to assume its functions, and will, therefore, with a view of meeting the objections entertained by Her Majesty's Government, give this subject that reconsideration which its great and increasing importance demands.

We rejoice to be informed that your Excellency's chief desire is, the prosperity of this Island—to which great end, we beg to assure your Excellency that no opportunity will be omitted on our part to co-operate with your Excellency in every practical measure conducive to its welfare and advancement.

*Ordered,* That the said draught Address be now committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Thomson took the Chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee had made some progress, and had directed him to move for leave to sit again—which the House agreed to.

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

Mr. Secretary Haviland, by command of His Excellency, delivered the following

**Message:**

H. V. HUNTLEY, Lt. Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor takes the earliest opportunity of submitting to the House of Assembly, in Her Majesty's name, a Bill to render valid certain proceedings of the Executive Government of this Island.

The Lieut. Governor also lays before the House a Copy of a Despatch from the Right Honorable Lord Stanley, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, explaining the necessity of such a measure.

Government House, 26th January, 1842.

*Ordered,* That the said Message, and the several papers accompanying the same, do lie on the Table.

[For the Despatch referred to in the said Message, see Appendix A.]

Then the House adjourned for one hour: