

His Excellency's Speech.

the necessity of a reorganization of this arm of the public defence. I feel the most unbounded confidence that the loyalty and patriotism of every class of Her Majesty's subjects in *Canada* will be conspicuous, as they have been heretofore, should occasion call for their services, to aid in the protection of their country; but a well digested and uniform system is indispensable to give a fitting direction to the most zealous efforts. At the same time I feel warranted in assuring you that, while our Gracious Sovereign will ever rely on the free and loyal attachment of Her Canadian People for the defence of this Province, and the maintenance of British Connexion, Her Majesty will be prepared, as Her predecessors have always been, to provide with promptitude and energy, corresponding with the power and resources of the Empire, for the security of Her North American Dominions.

The subject of the Civil List, which was brought under your consideration by my predecessor, will doubtless engage your attention, when I trust to your wisdom to make such a provision as will enable Her Majesty to give effect to your wishes, by recommending to the Imperial Parliament the requisite changes in the Act of Reunion.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,*

The financial accounts of the Province for the past year will be immediately laid before you. The estimates for the service of the current year, will be likewise submitted for your early consideration.

The necessity of providing for the prosecution and completion of the public improvements undertaken with the sanction of Parliament, will form a subject for your deliberation.

It affords me pleasure to be able to inform you that the revenue of the past year has not fallen short of the expectations which were entertained of its amount, and I rely on your willingness to make such provision for the public service, as a due regard to the interests of the people may require.

*Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,*

Since your last meeting the ancient City of *Quebec* has been subjected to unexampled calamity in the successive fires which laid waste its buildings. Measures, rendered indispensable by the exigency, were adopted by my Predecessor, which will be sent down for your approval.

The sympathy and benevolence of different portions of the British Empire, were roused into active exercise by the knowledge of the severe infliction with which it had pleased Divine Providence to permit the Citizens of *Quebec* to be visited, and we have the strongest reasons for appreciating the noble generosity which has been exhibited, and which has proved how truly the inhabitants of *Canada* are felt by the people of *Great Britain* to be brethren and fellow-subjects of the same mighty Nation. It will be for your wisdom to consider what further measures it may be proper to adopt, for the restoration of what has been thus destroyed.

The last intelligence from the Mother Country indicates a most important change in the Commercial Policy of the Empire. I had previously taken occasion to press upon Her Majesty's Government a due consideration of the effect that any contemplated alteration might have on the interests of *Canada*. But until we have a fuller exposition of the projected scheme, which a few days will probably bring to us, it would be premature to anticipate that the claims of this Province to a just measure of protection had been overlooked.

In these and the various other subjects affecting the prosperity of *Canada*, which may occupy you, I offer my hearty co-operation; and I earnestly trust that, under the direction of an all-wise Providence, we shall be enabled to pursue a course calculated to promote the best interests, and to foster the rising growth of this rapidly advancing Colony.

Then His Excellency the Administrator was pleased to retire, and the Legislative Assembly withdrew.

PRAYERS.

The Honorable the Speaker acquainted the House that there was a Member without, ready to be introduced,

When the Honorable James Gordon was introduced between the Honorable Messieurs *William Morris* and *Hamilton*.

Then the Honorable Mr. *Gordon* presented to the Speaker his Writ of Summons, who delivered it to the Clerk, and it was read as follows:

His Excellency's Speech.

His Excellency retires from the House.

The Honorable J. Gordon introduced as a Member.

Presents his Writ of Summons.