

*Tuesday, 5th December, 1826.*

THIRD SESSION, OF THE 9th PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT. 7th GEO. IV.

serious inconveniencies, if remedies are not applied. To these subjects, whenever the fit opportunity may appear to present itself, I shall be happy that you apply your earnest attention.

*Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

The Public Accounts and Estimates shall be laid before you; and I trust that you will make the necessary Provision for the Service of the ensuing year.

I will put you early in possession of His Majesty's pleasure upon your several Addresses of the last Session, so far as it has been communicated to me.

*Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,*

The prospect now opening to the Inhabitants of Upper Canada is very cheering. The system of facilitating Emigration, which the British Government has recently adopted, and which, having been applied in practice to this Province, can here be best appreciated, appears to have attracted, after a minute investigation, the favorable attention of Parliament, and in no small degree, of the nation at large.

We have reason to be well assured, that of the benefits which may result from such a policy, extensively pursued, this Colony will enjoy its full proportion; and if, from the actual state of Trade and Agriculture in Great Britain, and from the operations of the Canada Land Company, it shall happen, that persons possessed of moderate Capital, shall be induced to become settlers among us, we shall enjoy, in greater perfection, the advantages of an increase of population, by receiving at the same moment, a proportionate accession of intelligence and wealth.

The Report of the Military Commissioners, who visited this Province during the last year, has led to the resolution of adopting such measures for our Military defence, as will be commensurate with the object; and I have great satisfaction in communicating to you, that even now the execution of this provident and vigorous policy may be fairly said to have commenced.

The works projected must, in their execution, add to the stock of public wealth, by furnishing employment to labor; and it cannot be necessary to remark upon the object to be attained by their completion.

The Report of the Military Commissioners has served to strengthen the appeals which have been made from this Province, respecting the improvement of its Internal Navigation. An Officer of rank and science has recently arrived in Canada, for the purpose of superintending the execution of a Canal to lead from Lake Ontario to the River Ottawa, on a scale more extended than we had ventured to suggest. I am happy to acquaint you, that the opinions which have been expressed by that Officer, both in regard to the value of this work and its practicability, are in every respect satisfactory.

The Welland Canal, scarcely less an object of interest, although we owe it to the enterprise of a private Company, is proceeding with rapidity; and its present state affords a reasonable promise of its successful accomplishment. I must strongly recommend this work to your favor and protection.

While these extensive improvements in our communication by water are in progress, without burthening the Provincial Treasury, I cannot but direct your attention to those more obvious and easy improvements in our Highways; for want of which, the people of this Country may even find it difficult to avail themselves of all the advantages which those great works would otherwise present.

I shall make an early communication to you of the instructions which His Majesty has been pleased to transmit for my guidance, in respect to the Naturalization of such Aliens as have become resident in this Province; and if other Subjects shall present themselves, which I shall find it my duty to submit to your consideration, I will lay them before you in the course of your Session.

The House of Assembly having withdrawn, HIS EXCELLENCY was pleased to retire.

*Prayers were read.*

The Honorable the Speaker informed the House that he was in possession of a Copy of HIS EXCELLENCY'S Speech, which he read, and it was again read (*pro forma*) by the Clerk.

The Honorable William Campbell, Speaker, informed the House that he had His