

derate fund at the disposal of the Executive, to be applied to the relief of these poor people in cases of extreme distress, and thereby relieve the head of the Government from the necessity of making any unauthorised appropriation of the Public Revenues for such purposes. I offer these observations chiefly for the purpose of suggesting, that as by their unsettled and migratory habits, these poor people are necessarily excluded in a great measure from any participation in Parochial relief, some further provision should be made for the sick, infirm, and destitute among them, than appears hitherto to have been granted, and with this object, I am ready to concur in the appropriation of an adequate sum to be placed in the hands of the Executive, and of Commissioners appointed by it to be applied to this humane purpose, an account of its expenditure being regularly laid before the Legislature previous to the annual renewal of the Grant.

There is another matter which has constituted to me a subject of the most painful interest in all the Colonies with which I have hitherto been connected, and which presents itself to me in a no less distressing aspect in this. I allude to the absence of suitable arrangements for the reception and treatment, with a view to relief or cure, of that class of unhappy beings which I grieve to believe is rapidly increasing in these Colonies, owing to the causes to which I have adverted, viz. : the want of those means of effectual application to the disease in its incipient stages which I regard as the solemn duty of the Legislature of every Colony to provide for its *Pauper Lunatics*. I accordingly earnestly recommend this subject to your serious and compassionate consideration, in connexion with a very able and satisfactory Report, which will be laid before you, from the Commissioners appointed by my Predecessor in the Administration, to select the best Site for the proposed Building.

With these observations, and with the expression of an earnest hope that our united Legislativel abours in this final Session of the present Provincial Parliament, may result in the advancement of our common object, viz., the Peace, Happiness, and Prosperity of Nova-Scotia, I leave you to your deliberations.

Bill presented to improve Election Law.

The Honorable The Attorney General, pursuant to leave given, presented a Bill to improve the law relating to the Election of Representatives to serve in the General Assembly ; and the same was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Answer to speech moved.

Mr. Smith then proposed the following Address, in answer to the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and moved that the same do pass, viz :

TO HIS EXCELLENCY LIEUTENANT GENERAL

SIR JOHN HARVEY,

*Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over Her Majesty's Province of Nova-Scotia, and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

We, the Representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the people of Nova-Scotia, thank Your Excellency for the assurance of your anxious desire to identify yourself with all the interests of this portion of the North American possessions of the British Crown, and for the determination which you have expressed to use your best endeavours to promote them ; and we assure Your Excellency that your exertions for the attainment of an object so important, shall receive our cheerful and zealous co-operation.

Your