

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

I have ordered the Public Accounts to be prepared and laid before you without delay ; and I trust it will be found that the Supplies of last Session have been faithfully applied to the purposes for which they were granted. Considering the great depression Commerce has experienced, since the return of Peace, the Revenue cannot be expected to prove so productive as it was during the War. It will therefore be advisable to make a judicious use of the means we may have in apportioning them to the Public Service.

*Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Council,
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,*

I am sorry to have to state to you, that I have received since my arrival various reports of distress, occasioned by the failure of the Crops, in many districts of the Province during the last two years ; and though some temporary relief has been afforded, there is reason to apprehend that the pressure of want still continues, and may be severely felt before another harvest can be obtained, even under the most favourable circumstances of season. This subject I recommend to your earliest and most serious consideration.

In perusing the Proceedings of the Legislature for some years back, I have observed with great satisfaction the attention given to the making and improving the Public Roads. Nothing, indeed, is of greater importance to a new Country, or more powerfully claims my recommendation to your further attention.

Relying on the zeal, liberality and patriotism, manifested by this Assembly during the Administration of my Predecessors, and ardently desirous to co-operate with you in all measures tending to the general welfare of the Province, I shall look forward in a confident hope, under the blessing of Divine Providence, that our united endeavours will not prove unavailing.

DALHOUSIE.

Ordered, That Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Mortimer and Mr. Archibald, be a Committee to prepare an Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech.

Ordered, That Mr. Lawson, Mr. Mortimer, Mr. Roach, Mr. Wells and Mr. Flemming, be a Committee of this House for the purpose of examining the Public Accounts, jointly, with a Committee of His Majesty's Council, and that the Clerk do acquaint the Council therewith.

Ordered, That Mr. Haliburton, Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Pyke, be a Committee to examine into, and report on, the expiring Laws.

Ordered, That no Petition of a private nature be received after Wednesday the 5th March next.

Mr.