

abilities and talents of those persons, who may have arrived since the late Assembly were first convened, as well as of others inclined to come forward.

“ We presume that the papers which your Excellency has been pleased to order should be laid before us, will sufficiently explain your Excellency's motive in calling us together, at this Season.

“ His Majesty's Ministers having been generously pleased to take into consideration the improvement of this Colony, notwithstanding the multiplicity of business which must occupy their time at this momentous crisis. Your Excellency may be assured that we who are remote from the Scenes of War, and blessed with the undisturbed exercise of our peaceful avocations, will endeavor to shew our selves deserving of the gracious protection and encouragement of the United Kingdom, by using such means as we can consistently devise, to call forward every resource within the attainment of this infant Country, towards its own prosperity and the service of his most Sacred Majesty.

“ Our internal Defence, the encouragement of Agriculture and Commerce, opening Roads of Communication; and erecting Buildings and Establishments necessary to carry on the business of Government on a system of regularity and responsibility, are objects wisely pointed out by your Excellency as deserving of our particular consideration, and we shall therein avail ourselves as far as possible of your Excellency's kind and discriminating recommendation.

“ We shall pay every attention within our powers to the examination of the Public Accounts and Estimates, so soon as your Excellency shall be pleased to order them to be laid before us, and while we lament that our exigencies are far beyond our present Revenue, we at the same time take leave to assure your Excellency that our utmost deliberations shall be used towards giving proper efficacy to the natural advantages of this Island, and placing it upon that respectable foundation, on which as your Excellency is pleased to remark, it justly merits to stand.

“ We perfectly agree with your Excellency that the recent advancement of the Colony (though great as at any former period of the same time) creeps but very slowly---and we return our sincere thanks for the obliging offer of your Excellency's cordial co-operation with the exertion of the Legislature which we have no doubt will materially assist towards rendering this Island a valuable acquisition to His Majesty's Most Gracious Government.

“ ROBERT HODGSON, Speaker.

*“ Assembly, Room December 16th, 1806.”*

The House having returned, the Speaker Reported That His Excellency was pleased to return the following Answer :