

10th February, 1854.

*His Excellency* KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Address to the Governor, in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, was read a second time—and the House went into Committee thereon ;

Address to the Governor in answer to his Speech on opening the Session—read 2nd time and committed.

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Address with some amendments.

Reported—

Ordered—That the Report be received.

The Address, as amended, was then read a third time and passed, and is as follows :—

Read 3d time & passed.

*To His Excellency* KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies, &c. &c.*

The Address.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council of Newfoundland, in General Assembly convened, beg leave respectfully to thank your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature.

We concur with your Excellency that our humble and hearty acknowledgments to Almighty God are due for that measure of public health and tranquillity which has been graciously vouchsafed to this Colony during the past year; blessings not without their alloy from the distress which unhappily prevails in consequence of the continuance of the potato disease, and the partial failure of the Fishery.

Owing to the causes stated by your Excellency, it was obviously necessary to exceed the Grant made last Session for the relief of the poor, and we shall readily concur in a measure to indemnify your Excellency for an outlay so unavoidable.

We are happy to learn that the Revenue has exceeded the estimate made of its probable amount.

We thank your Excellency for your promise to lay before us copies of the Despatches referred to by your Excellency ; and we heartily rejoice to find that Her Majesty's Government will carefully maintain our rights of Fishery, involving as those Fisheries do, interests of paramount importance to this Colony, and of grave concern to the Empire at large.