

His Excellency's Speech.

has presented itself on which it has been absolutely necessary to afford relief.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I had, until very recently, indulged the hope that it would be in my power to announce to you that a considerable surplus fund, arising on the grant voted by the Imperial Parliament, would now be at your disposal to aid your Local revenue in meeting the necessary expenses of the Government ; but a decrease in the Imperial duties to the extent of more than £3,000 in the last nine months, as compared with the same period in 1832, has disappointed my well-grounded expectations. Anxious to relieve myself from all pecuniary responsibility, I shall cause an estimate of the probable expenses for the months of February and March, and another for the year commencing on the first April, to be laid before you on an early day, together with a statement of the funds at your disposal, to meet them ; and you will perceive by the latter that I have kept inviolate the produce of those duties raised by your own enactments.

To economize your finances, and meet what I have been given to understand to be your wishes, I have directed the Court House to be prepared for holding your Session ; and I feel fully assured that you will use your best endeavours to obviate any inconvenience to the other branches of the public service that may arise from this arrangement.

*Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council,
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

In selecting this season of the year for the period of your Session, I have been guided by what I understood would best consult your convenience—and particularly that of those Gentlemen who reside at a distance—in the full hope and expectation that you will give your undivided attention to those subjects of general and local interest which may come before you.

On the opening of your first Session I laid before you Memoranda of the state and condition of this Government—Judicial, Civil and Financial—and pointing out the various subjects on which early legislation was desirable ; and on referring to that document and the little that was then accomplished, arising out of circumstances over which you had no controul, there are few points in it upon which it does not become my duty again to press your attention.

An additional year has only pointed out, with increased force, the importance of an early revision both of your Judicature and Jurisprudence.

Recent events in this town of a tumultuary and discreditable description, have shewn the necessity for a small and well-appointed Militia, to aid the Civil Magistrate in suppressing lawless and illegal assemblages, and in defeating the mischievous in their designs upon the lives or properties of His Majesty's subjects, which is the more seriously called for in those situations where military assistance cannot be resorted to. And although in those places where a military force does exist, it is the bounden duty of the military, in common with all his Majesty's subjects, to obey the summons of the Civil Magistrate, yet it is essential that I should impress upon you that his Majesty's forces are not sent to the colonies, to perform Police duties, and that while they assist in protecting you from foreign foes, it is your province to guard against and bring to punishment your domestic enemies.

The Quarantine Act has, on the whole, answered the object of its enactment ; and although it is susceptible of improvement, too many other objects claim your attention to allow me to add its revision to your other duties.

The subject of Savings' Banks is one that merits your early attention. Every year convinces me more strongly that there is no country where