

affording, not accommodation only, but often essential relief to the surrounding inhabitants.

"I shall direct to be laid before you a correspondence which has passed between Her Majesty's Government and myself, upon the question of the expediency of abolishing the duties now levied upon Salted Provisions and Flour, under an Act of the Imperial Parliament, upon their importation into this Province. You will observe that I have recommended that no final decision should be adopted by Her Majesty's Government in relation to these duties, until you should have had an opportunity of expressing your opinion and wishes upon the subject in your Legislative capacity, and that that recommendation has been complied with.

"On the subject of the survey of the Bay of Fundy, I will communicate to you a Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, by which it will be seen that that survey will be commenced as soon as that of the Gulph of Saint Lawrence now in progress is completed.

"The Secretary of State having entered into an exposition of the principles upon which Her Majesty's Government recommend the Colonial Banking system to be conducted, I shall direct the Despatch referred to, to be laid before you, and recommend the subject to your attentive consideration.

"The Queen's Government has also addressed to me enquiries, indicating a warm degree of interest in the actual condition of the aboriginal inhabitants of the country, resident in this Province. It will be my duty to afford all the information which it may be in my power to procure on this interesting subject, which it appears also to consist with that duty, to bring under your favorable notice—a copy of the Despatch will therefore be laid before you.

"Upon the subject of Education, I will merely observe, that the system recently established by Law, is undergoing a fair trial; the arrangements for the supply of books, under the grant of the last Session, are not yet completed; but I will take care that it shall include none which can contaminate the morals or impair the loyalty of the rising generation, or which shall not be conducive to the attainment of a moral, religious, practical and useful elementary education.

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

"I have directed the Treasurer's Accounts, together with a statement of the receipts of the Casual and Territorial Revenue, to be laid before you. You will, I trust, find that your appropriations have been correctly and usefully applied to the objects for which they were made, and I do not entertain any doubt of your disposition to make liberal provision for the ordinary as well as for the contingent expenses of the Government.

*"Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

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

"In concluding the observations which a sense of public duty and an anxious desire to promote the prosperity and welfare of this rising and truly British Province have alone dictated, I will advert to one other topic, and that is the state of insecurity in which its valuable Records are at present placed, and I would suggest for your consideration, whether it would not consist with a wise economy to erect a substantial Province Building, in which all the principal Public Offices might be concentrated, the Public Records placed in comparative security, and the different branches of the Legislature, as well as the higher Courts of Justice, with their respective Officers, be more conveniently accommodated."

On motion of Mr. Stewart,

*Ordered,* That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, or his Deputy, do forthwith attend this House with the Writ issued to the Sheriff of the County of Restigouche for the election of the Member for the said County to serve in General Assembly.

On motion of Mr. Partelow,

*Resolved,* That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in answer to his Speech at the opening of this present Session.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Partelow, Mr. Brown and Mr. L. A. Wilmot, be a Committee to prepare the Address.

On