

" I have given directions that there should be laid before you the Reports which have been received by the Government respecting the existing state of the various Constituencies in the Province. A condition of affairs in which large numbers of those to whom it was the intention of the Legislature to entrust the Franchise, cannot legally exercise that privilege, will not, I am sure, be permitted by you to continue.

" I rejoice to be able to announce to you that considerable progress has been made in the Railway Works in course of construction; and a gratifying proof has been afforded of the confidence which is reposed by the Capitalists of the Mother Country, both in the good faith and in the Resources of the Province, by the ready sale, at a premium, of the Debentures issued to defray the cost of these Works. Documents fully explaining the present condition of the Railway Works, and the proceedings of the Government in connection with them, will be laid before you; and a measure will be submitted to you, having for its object the diminution of the cost of superintending the expenditure on Railways, without impairing the efficiency of that superintendence.

" The attention of the Government has been directed to the insufficiency of the existing means of conveyance both of Passengers and Goods between the various Ports on the Northern and Eastern Shores of this Province and Prince Edward's Island. You will, I am confident, recognize the advantage which the Province would derive from increased facilities of Commercial intercourse with that Colony. The Government of Prince Edward's Island are prepared to co-operate in making such arrangements as would afford to the People of both Colonies the advantages of a more complete system of inter-communication between them, and a proposal will be submitted to you for carrying into effect these arrangements.

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

" The Fiscal Accounts of the past Year will be laid before you. These Accounts will, I hope, be found to exhibit with clearness and simplicity both the Receipts and the Expenditure of the Year, and I congratulate you on the improved condition of the Finances of the Province. Estimates also of the Revenue and of the Expenditure for the current Year have been prepared by the Government, and will be submitted to you.

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

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

" In accordance with the desire expressed by the House of Assembly, the Government has during the recess been engaged in the consideration of the means whereby a healthy stream of Immigration hither may be best promoted. The correspondence and other documents explanatory of the progress which has hitherto been made in maturing a scheme for this purpose, will be laid before you; and I do not doubt that these documents will receive from you that calm and careful consideration to which they are entitled, as well from the importance as from the complicated character of the subject to which they relate.

" In other Colonies Commerce has been extended, and an impetus given both to Emigration and to the investment of Capital from the United Kingdom, by the establishment