

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have it in command from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you that His Excellency will declare the causes of his calling this General Assembly as soon as the House of Assembly have chosen a Speaker. It is therefore the pleasure of the Lieutenant-Governor that the Gentlemen of the House of Assembly do repair to the place where they usually sit, and there proceed to the choice of a Speaker, and present the person so chosen for His Excellency's approbation.

H. A. directed to
choose Speaker.

The House of Assembly then retired, and after a short time having returned the Honorable William Young, one of the Members for the County of Cumberland, addressed His Excellency as follows:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The House of Assembly, agreeably to Your Excellency's command, have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and have elected Stewart Campbell, Esquire, one of the Members for the County of Guysborough, to that office, and, by their direction, I beg leave to present him for the approbation of your Excellency.

Speaker presented.

To which His Excellency was pleased to say:

I approve of the Speaker whom the House of Assembly have chosen.

And approved of.

Then the Speaker of the Assembly said:

Your Excellency's ready approval of the choice with which I have been honored by the House of Assembly having constituted me in due form the Speaker of the House of Assembly, it has now become my duty, in the name of the Representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the People of this Province, respectfully to demand all their accustomed rights and privileges, that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, that they may be free from arrest during their attendance in Parliament, and that I, as their Speaker, may have free access to your Excellency's person.

Speaker claims privi-
leges.

To which His Excellency replied:

I grant the usual privileges.

Privileges granted.

Then His Excellency was pleased to open the Session with the following Speech:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

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

In meeting this Parliament for the first time, it gives me much pleasure to be able to congratulate you upon the prosperous condition of the Province.

Speech.

You will be gratified to learn, that, notwithstanding the diminution of the Royalty on Coal, and although the Distilleries have not been in operation during the last nine months, the Revenue has exceeded that of any former year, fully realizing the Estimates submitted to the Legislature.

It is matter of congratulation, that, while under existing arrangements, the operations of the General Mining Association have considerably increased, new and valuable discoveries have been made in our Mineral resources, which are stimulating Provincial enterprise, attracting foreign capital, and bid fair at no distant day to introduce vigorous and healthy competition, by which Trade will be largely extended, and the Revenue increased.

A Commissioner was appointed, under the Act relating to the management of the Indian Reserves, and some progress has been made in their adjustment, the Report of which will be laid before you.

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

The Public Accounts and Estimates, for the current year, will be submitted for your consideration.