

Leinster, having previously taken the oath, according to law, and subscribed, before the Commissioners, the Roll containing the same, took their seats in the House.

Fines, penalties
and forfeitures
bill.

Ordered. That the Honourable Mr. *Harrison* have leave to bring in a Bill to regulate the appropriation of Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House; and the same was received and read for the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on this day week.

Mr. Speaker re-
ports Speech.

Mr. Speaker then reported that, when the House did attend His Excellency, the Governor-General, this day, in the Legislative Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament; of which, Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, which he read to the House, and is as followeth:—

Speech.

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

The melancholy event which marked the close of the last Session, and which must still be fresh in your memory and your regrets, has imposed upon me the responsibility of maturing and carrying into effect numerous important measures, and has caused a corresponding necessity for delay in calling you together.

Since you last met, several events of interest to this Province and the British Empire have occurred, the issue of which has been mercifully directed by Providence for the security and advantage of both.

The birth of a Prince, destined, under God's protection, to occupy the British Throne, is a source of rejoicing to all Her Majesty's faithful subjects; and you will, I am sure, join with me in cordial congratulations to the Queen and Her August Consort upon this event, so conducive to their domestic happiness, and so auspicious for the nation.

You will also, I am confident, unite with one voice in thanksgiving to Almighty God, that He has been pleased to avert from our beloved Sovereign the danger to which she has been exposed by the treasonable attempt of an assassin, and by the malice of the reckless and wicked; and will join in the prayer, that He will continue to watch over, and long to preserve, a life so justly dear to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

I rejoice that I am able to acquaint you, that a Treaty between *Great Britain* and the *United States* has been signed on the part of Her Majesty, and since ratified by the Federal Senate, by which the important questions affecting this Province and the *United States* have been adjusted. From this happy settlement, the ratification of which by Her Majesty I hope soon to be able to announce to you, I augur the most favourable consequences to the Province, in the maintenance of peace, the restoration of confidence, and the devotion of the undivided energies of its inhabitants to the internal advancement and the development of the vast resources of the country. These have been among Her Majesty's chief objects in the negotiation of this Treaty; and I am commanded by the Queen to state to you, that no wish is nearer to Her Majesty's heart, than that, under Her rule and the protection of Her Crown, all Her faithful subjects in *Canada* may rest in undisturbed peace—may feel themselves to be one people with their fellow subjects in the British Islands—and may increase in wealth, prosperity, and contentment, founded on the possession and rational enjoyment of a free and essentially British constitution.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I have unfeigned satisfaction in informing you that Her Majesty's Government have redeemed, in the

fullest manner, the munificent promise made by their predecessors, to guarantee the Loan contemplated by this Province; and I shall lay before you, without delay, the Act of the Imperial Parliament which gives effect to their intention. I have been in correspondence with Her Majesty's Government upon the mode in which the assistance thus given can be made most available to the Province, and I shall have occasion to make an important communication to you upon this subject. In the meantime, I have adopted every means at my command to obviate the inconveniences of delay, and to advance the Public Works; and I hope, before the expiration of the present season, to be able to extend them considerably. I have directed that full information, as to the operations of the past year, shall be laid before you.

It has been found impracticable to carry into effect in *England* the arrangement proposed last year for the assistance of deserving emigrants. In redemption, however, of the pledge made upon this subject, Her Majesty's Government have obtained from Parliament a grant of money in aid of destitute emigrants upon their arrival in this country. It will, meanwhile, be satisfactory to you to know, that, although the number of emigrants who have arrived directly from the Mother Country, or through the neighbouring States, during the present season, has been much larger than during the corresponding period of last year, no serious destitution has prevailed among them, which would render it necessary for me to apply to you to devise means for their relief; and I have every reason to hope that there are the best prospects of their ultimate success and prosperity.

The condition of the Public Revenue is highly satisfactory. The patriotic measure, adopted by the Legislature during the last Session, to provide by means of increased taxes upon imports for restoring the credit of the Province, and meeting the charge about to be created for the completion and extension of the Public Works, has been eminently successful. The Tariff of the Imperial Parliament for the British Possessions in *North America*, framed, as it is, in a most generous spirit as regards this Province, will promote essentially its financial and commercial interests. The provisions of the Imperial Act will probably call for corresponding alterations in the Provincial scale of duties; and I shall, at an early period, require your advice and assistance in making the Revenue Laws of this Province consistent in themselves, and harmonious with the enactments of the Imperial Parliament.

Her Majesty's Government have evinced a most liberal disposition in the consideration of the duties on agricultural produce, in connection with the trade of *Canada*; and I am led to hope that an arrangement may be made to extend the market for Canadian produce, in a manner alike advantageous to this Province and the Mother Country.

I have directed that the accounts of the Revenue and Expenditure of the past year, with the Estimates for the ensuing year, be laid before you.

Honourable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

I have given much attention to the operation of the great measures passed last Session, and I shall have occasion to propose to you modifications in certain of them, with the view of giving effect to their provisions, in development of the principles on which they are founded, and in harmony with the spirit of those institutions under which they are framed.

The important measure for the establishment of District Councils, the details of which experience alone could perfect, will come under revision; and I hope for your cheerful aid in considering the amendments which will be proposed, with the view of removing all obstacles to the smooth and efficient operation of these Institutions.

I have