

We are happy to learn that Your Excellency has concluded the purchase of another estate from one of the proprietors, and that it is Your Excellency's intention to continue to buy out the rights of the land owners whenever it can be done on reasonable terms, as we are convinced that the prosperity of the colony and the contentment of the people much depend upon converting the leasehold system into freehold, and thereby giving the occupiers of the soil the sole right in the land.

We cannot fail to admire the loyalty and spirit which our fellow-subjects in the neighboring Provinces have displayed, when threatened by piratical attacks at the hands of lawless men. Your Excellency has well anticipated what we conceive to be the sentiments of the people of this Colony, when you say that, should an emergency of this nature ever unfortunately occur in this Island, you could rely with confidence on a like spirit in its inhabitants of every creed and station; and with the object of preparing for such an emergency, we will be ready to give our best consideration and support to such alterations in or modification of the laws regulating the Militia and the Volunteer force as the necessity of the case may demand.

We are glad to be informed that the stock purchased in England for the Model Farm arrived in a satisfactory condition, and we have every confidence that the judicious selection of stock made under the direction of the Committee of the Model Farm will be the means of vastly improving the stock of the Colony. And Your Excellency may rely that we will cheerfully concur in any grant that may be deemed necessary for the support of the Model Farm, an Institution, we feel assured, admirably calculated, when judiciously managed, to promote and extend the agricultural interests of the Colony.

We cordially unite with Your Excellency in the fervent prayer that the blessing of Almighty God may attend our deliberations, and conduce to the welfare and prosperity of the Island.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be engrossed, and that the same be signed by the President of this House.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor by the whole House.

*Ordered*, That the Select Committee who prepared the Address be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, to know what time His Excellency will be pleased to appoint to be attended with the Address.

The following Petitions were brought up, read, and laid on the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. *Palmer*,—of Daniel Griffith, soap and candle manufacturer, of Charlottetown, praying to be protected from unfair competition in the prosecution of his business. Of Malcolm McLeod, Orwell, Master Shipbuilder, praying compensation for the Model of a ship of two thousand tons, composed of eleven different species of native woods, sent by this Colony to the London Exhibition of 1862, and for which he has received no compensation whatever.

By the Hon. Mr. *McLaren*,—Of James Dewar and other inhabitants of Brudenell and vicinity, praying for an amendment of the School Act.

By the Hon. Mr. *Beer*,—Of Bruno J. Gallant, and other inhabitants of Rustico, praying that measures may be adopted for the better protection of the Cod-fisheries.