

We learn with pleasure that no time was lost by the Executive of the Province, in remonstrating against the forcible detention of a subject of Her Majesty, an inhabitant of this Province, in the neighbouring States, under a charge of a pretended crime; that provision was made for securing to the individual the means of defence, pending the further action of Her Majesty's Government, and that the Queen's Representative at *Washington* has since been instructed to demand his release.

Address in answer to
Speech at opening of
Session.

We receive, with feelings of the warmest gratitude, the assurances which Your Excellency has given us, by the Queen's command, of Her Majesty's fixed determination to protect Her faithful subjects in *Canada* with the whole weight of Her power.

We are deeply sensible of the great advantages which the Province has derived, and must derive, from the arrangements by which, under the directions of the Treasury, the rates of postage between all parts of the Colony and the *United Kingdom* have been greatly reduced, as well as from those which have been made by the Deputy Post Master General, under Your Excellency's directions, for the more speedy and regular conveyance of letters between the different parts of this Province; and we confidently anticipate, with Your Excellency, that the result of the labours of the Commission Your Excellency has been pleased to appoint to inquire into and report upon the whole Post Office System of British *North America*, will be the establishment of a plan securing improvements in the internal communication, by post, within the Colony, equal to those which we have already obtained in the communication with the Mother Country.

Our earliest and most serious attention shall be given to the many subjects of deep importance to the future welfare of the Province which demand it; and Your Excellency may rest assured that any measures which You may direct to be submitted to us, shall receive our prompt and willing consideration.

We feel that among the first in importance of these subjects, is the adoption of measures for developing the resources of the Province, by well considered and extensive Public Works; and that the rapid settlement of the Country, the value of every man's property within it, and the advancement of his future fortunes are deeply affected by this question.

We concur with Your Excellency in the opinion that the improvement of the Navigation, from the shores of Lake *Erie* and Lake *Huron* to the *Ocean*, is a work requiring a great outlay of money, but promising commensurate returns. We are aware of the difficulty which would have existed in undertaking this work in the present financial condition of the Province, and we learn with gratitude and pleasure that Your Excellency has received the authority of Her Majesty's Government to state that they are prepared to call on the Imperial Parliament to afford their assistance towards this important undertaking; and that in the full belief that peace and tranquillity will be happily established in the Province, under the Constitution settled by Parliament, and that nothing but a relief from its most pressing difficulties is wanting to its rapid advancement to prosperity, they will propose to Parliament, by affording the guarantee of the Imperial Treasury for a Loan to the extent of no less than a million and a half sterling, to aid the Province, for the double purpose of diminishing the pressure of the Interest on the Public Debt, and of enabling it to proceed with those great public undertakings, whose progress, during the last few years, has been arrested by financial difficulties.

Our best consideration will be given to the measure which Your Excellency intend to submit to us, embracing a plan for these important purposes, and we shall thankfully receive the extracts which may be laid before us for our information, and that of the people of *Canada*, from the Des-