

## FRIDAY, January 4th, 1833.

### Prayers.

**A**T the hour appointed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to receive the Address, Mr. *Speaker* and the House went up;

And being returned—

Mr. *Speaker* reported, that the House had attended upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and presented their Address, to which His Excellency was pleased to make the following answer:—

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

I beg to offer you my best acknowledgments for your Address.

I duly appreciate the desire you have expressed, to give your best attention to all matters connected with the benefit and prosperity of the Colony—and to the attainment of those objects, my unceasing efforts shall not be wanting.

On motion of Mr. *Cooper*—

Ordered, that it be an Instruction to the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to ascertain the population of the Island, to introduce a clause requiring the number of Freeholders and Tenants respectively, to be distinctly enumerated, specifying the terms of years for which the latter hold their Leases, and the rate of Rent payable each—and also by that the different religious sects or denominations be distinctly stated under separate heads.

The Report of the Special Committee on the expiring Laws having been taken up, and again read:

Ordered, that the said Report be now committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House accordingly resolved itself into said Committee.

Mr. *Speaker* left the Chair:

Mr. *Brenan* took the Chair of the Committee:

The House resumed to receive a Message.

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by Mr. Secretary Collins:

A. W. YOUNG, Lieutenant Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor lays before the House of Assembly, the copy of a Despatch from the Right Honorable Viscount Goderich, in answer to one transmitting a joint Address from the Council and Assembly to His Majesty, setting forth the embarrassment cau-

sed to the Public Service by the delay of the signification of His Majesty's pleasure on certain Acts transmitted for His Majesty's consideration.

In communicating this Despatch to the House, the Lieutenant Governor is commanded to acquaint them, that His Majesty has been pleased to receive their Address very graciously, and to convey to them His Majesty's thanks for their loyal expressions of attachment to his Person and Government; and to signify to them His Majesty's regret that any circumstance should have occurred to impede the prompt dispatch of the business of the important and valuable Colony which they represent; and to inform them that His Majesty has issued such orders as he trusts will secure the most prompt attention to the Legislative Acts of Prince Edward Island in future.

January 4th, 1833.

No. 9.

[COPY]

DOWNING STREET, 4th July, 1832.

SIR,

I have received your Despatch, dated the 14th April last, No. 12, enclosing a joint Address from the Council and Assembly of Prince Edward Island, setting forth the embarrassment caused to the Public service, by the delay of the signification of His Majesty's pleasure on certain Acts transmitted for His Majesty's consideration.

It is with great regret that I acknowledge the truth and justice of the complaint preferred by the two Houses of General Assembly on this occasion, for the delay to which they refer has, for a considerable time past, attracted my notice, and has been the subject of frequent communications between this department and the Council Office.

You are fully aware that all Acts when received from the Colony are transmitted to the Lord President, to be laid before His Majesty in Council, and being then referred to a Committee of Privy Council, reports are made from that Committee for the assistance of His Majesty in deciding upon each Act. When such Reports are confirmed, an order to that effect is drawn up at the Council Office, and is thence conveyed to this Department, for transmission to the Colony. In the course of these proceedings, a considerable time may often be consumed, even when the utmost activity is employed, because their progress is subject to the delays of protracted inquiry, of hearing parties objecting to the confirmation of particular laws, and of holding meetings of the Privy Council. In the cases to which the Address refers, these various causes of delay intervened; and especially a long period seems to have been consumed in receiving and weighing remonstrances preferred against one of the Acts in question, by persons who represented that it would be fatal to their interests, and injurious to their just rights as Proprietors of land. After these difficulties had been surmounted, a new and peculiar cause of delay appears to have occurred at the Council Office. That establishment had been regulated with reference to the business of ordinary times; but during the last two years the sanatory state of Europe has augmented to such an extent the business of Quarantine (which is under the peculiar direction of the Lords of the Privy Council), that, under the pressure of these unexpected engage-