

NOVA SCOTIA.

management of the local Legislature, in exchange for a civil list, shall receive from us that prompt and earnest consideration which its acknowledged importance demands.

On a subject so interesting as the future management of the Post-office department throughout the North American provinces, and the regulation of the postage payable on the transmission of letters, it will afford us a high measure of gratification to receive, through your Excellency, a proposal which shall be found conducive to the convenience and the social and intellectual advancement of the people, and the general interests of this province.

We deplore, with your Excellency, the deficiency in the crops, that has, in a great degree, during the last season, disappointed the hopes of the farmer; whilst it is consolatory to believe that the fisheries have, in general, reached their ordinary productiveness; and it is matter of gratification to be informed, that the revenue paid and received during 1847 equals in amount that of the preceding year.

We thank your Excellency for assuring us that the accounts of the public receipts and expenditures during the last year will be laid before us at the earliest practicable period.

We regret to learn that some considerable expenses have been unavoidably incurred, in consequence of an unexpected influx of pauper emigration; and we are gratified to receive your Excellency's congratulations upon the comparative exemption which has been experienced by Nova Scotia during the past year from that sad extent of calamity by which the neighbouring provinces of Canada and New Brunswick have been, and continued to be, afflicted.

We regret to be informed by your Excellency that distress, to a very considerable extent, exists among our own settlers and the Indians in some parts of the province, especially Cape Breton, in consequence of the failure of the crops generally, but more especially of potatoes.

It affords us satisfaction to be informed, that, in affording relief in these cases to a moderate, but, it is believed, to a sufficient extent to guard against absolute destitution, your Excellency has exercised such precautions for the ultimate protection of the revenue as were in your power, and we shall give our attentive consideration to the accounts of these expenditures when laid before us.

Your Excellency's assurance of your readiness, at all times, freely to communicate, and cordially to co-operate with the Legislative Council and House of Assembly for the advancement of any object which may appear calculated to promote the true interests, prospects and happiness of Her Majesty's loyal subjects of Nova Scotia, we accept with pleasure, and gratefully acknowledge.

While we are fully sensible of the importance of the various subjects submitted by your Excellency for our consideration, we feel that in the course it may be advisable to pursue, with reference to measures so intimately connected with the interests of the people, it is essential to the satisfactory result of our deliberations on these and other matters of public concern that Her Majesty's Executive Council should enjoy the confidence of the country; and we consider it our humble duty respectfully to state, that the present Executive Council does not possess that confidence so essential to the promoting of the public welfare, and so necessary to ensure to your Excellency the harmonious co-operation of this Assembly.

Reply

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

I RECEIVE with great satisfaction this loyal and dutiful address, and the assurance it conveys of your readiness to co-operate with me in carrying out, as far as a due regard to the circumstances and condition of the province may permit, the suggestions which I deemed it my duty to lay before you, and generally, in doing what may depend on us to promote the interests and prosperity of Nova Scotia; and, with reference to the concluding paragraph of your address, no time will be lost by me in adopting such measures as may appear to me expedient.

(signed) *J. Harvey.*

Government House, 27 January 1848.

May it please your Excellency,

Halifax, 28 January 1848.

A MAJORITY of the House of Assembly, having, on Wednesday last, by an amendment to the Address in answer to your Excellency's opening speech, declared that the Executive Council does not possess the confidence of the country, we deem it to be our duty, for preserving harmony between the Executive and the representatives of the people, to tender to the Queen, through your Excellency, the resignation of our offices of Executive Counsellors, which we have had the honour to receive from our Sovereign.

In terminating our official intercourse with your Excellency, we beg you to receive our acknowledgment of the kindness and courtesy you have ever manifested, and we offer to your Excellency our sincere wishes for your prosperity and happiness.

We have, &c.

(signed) *S. B. Robie.
R. D. George.
J. W. Johnston.
E. M. Dodd.
M. B. Almon.*

Sir,