

representing the incorporated counties of Lennox and Addington, be Speaker of this House, in which he was seconded by Peter Perry, Esquire, also a member for the incorporated counties of Lenox and Addington.

The question being put by the Clerk, was carried in the affirmative.

Whereupon, the Clerk having declared Mr. Bidwell duly elected, he was conducted to the chair by Captain Matthews and Mr. Perry, and, standing on the upper step, he returned his humble acknowledgements for the honor they had been pleased to confer upon him, by choosing him to be their Speaker.

The House then adjourned till one o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, 9th January, 1829.

The House met.

At a quarter past 2 o'clock P. M. the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod came to the Bar and delivered the commands of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for the immediate attendance of this House at the bar of the Legislative Council Chamber, and retired.

The Speaker elect, with the officers of the House, and members present, agreeably to the commands delivered, repaired to the bar of the Legislative Council Chamber, and being returned, the Speaker reported that His Excellency had been pleased to approve of the choice the House had made of him to be their Speaker, and had given an assurance that the usual privileges of the House should be granted by His Excellency in the most ample manner.

Captain Matthews gives notice, that on Tuesday next, he will bring in a bill to repeal the 44th of the late King.

The Speaker then informed the House, that when the House attended upon His Excellency, at the bar of the Legislative Council Chamber, His Excellency had been pleased to open the session with a most gracious speech from the Throne, of which, to prevent mistakes, he had procured a copy.

The Speech was then read as follows:—

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

At the time of my assuming the Government which His Majesty has been pleased to commit to my charge, I was desirous of meeting you in Provincial Parliament at an earlier period than the present. But the interests of the country have been best consulted by convening you at a season when little embarrassment or inconvenience can be experienced in any District from your being called to your Legislative duties.

In recommending your immediate and earnest attention to be directed to affairs that are closely connected with the welfare of the Colony, I must remark, that no surer proofs of your vigilance and judgment can ever be adduced, than the prosperity, happiness, and contentment of His Majesty's faithful Canadian subjects, and, I trust, if the public good be exclusively and diligently considered, in the exercise of your important functions, that those ends will be assured, and that the beneficial effects of your proceedings will soon be apparent in every part of the Province.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I have ordered the estimates of the present year, and the public accounts to be laid before you.

The commands of His Majesty that have relation to several addresses of the House of Assembly of the last Parliament, shall be communicated to you.

Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

The laws that are about to expire, will require your consideration. The repeal of the act, entitled "An Act for the better securing this Province against all seditious attempts or designs to disturb the tranquillity thereof" passed in the 44th of the late King is, I think, advisable, as it seldom can be applied to cases which it was intended to meet.

The report of the Arbitrators on the part of Upper and Lower Canada, for ascertaining the proportion of duties to be paid to this Province, has been transmitted to me; and it must be satisfactory to you to be informed, that on that question an equitable arrangement has taken place.

The public schools are generally increasing, but their present organization appears susceptible of improvement.

Measures will be adopted, I hope, to reform the Royal Grammar School, and to incorporate it with the University recently endowed by His Majesty and to introduce a system in that seminary, that will open to the youth of the Province the means of receiving a liberal and extensive course of instruction.

Unceasing exertions should be made to attract able masters to this country, where the population bears no proportion to the number of offices and employments, that must necessarily be held by men of education and acquirements, for the support of the laws, and of your free institutions.

The expense already incurred in carrying on the works in the Gore and Niagara Districts, has been considerable, but few will regret that they have been undertaken, such enterprizes can, at first be seldom duly appreciated. It is obvious, however, that the value of the productions of your soil can never be known, unless you have canals, and good internal communications to facilitate your commercial intercourse with the vast empire of which you form a part.

From the observations of the Deputy Post Master General, at Quebec, to which I shall draw your attention, respecting the impossibility of forwarding the mails with either safety or expedition; I am persuaded that some better expedient than statute labour must be resorted to, for maintaining the Roads in a proper state. The sums expended on the useful works now in progress, circulate in their natural channel, remain in the Province, enrich it and promote industry. On the extent of protection and encouragement afforded to projects of this kind, and on your being prepared, by means of the essential aid of well organized institutions, for the reception and location of every description of settler; the agricultural interests of the colony, and the advance of its commerce, will be found chiefly to depend.

Mr. Dalton brought up the petition of Francis Collins of the Town of York, Printer, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Dalton brought up the petition of Samuel Swan, of the Town of Kingston, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Lafferty brought up the petition of Samuel Theal, of the Township of Grantham, in the Niagara District, which was laid on the table.

Mr. John Rolph, seconded by Captain Matthews, moves, that it be resolved, that this House will, on to-morrow, take into consideration the speech of

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, at the opening of this session.

Which was carried.

Mr. Hamilton brought up the Petition of James Burk and others, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Ketchum brought up the Petition of Thomas David Morrison, Esquire, of the Town of York, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Mackenzie brought up the Petition of Rowland Burr and others, of the Township of Vaughan, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Mackenzie brought up the Petition of Nathaniel Prestidge Buckley, of the Town of York, which was laid on the table.

Mr. McCall brought up the Petition of Israel Wood and others, of the London District, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Peterson brought up the Petition of Andrew Johnson and others, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Dalton gives notice, that he will, on Monday next, move certain resolutions respecting the Commercial and Agricultural state of this Province.

Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. John Rolph, moves, that the Postage on all Letters to and from members, during the present Session, be paid by the Clerk of this House, and charged in the contingent account.

Which was carried.

Captain Matthews gives notice, that, on Monday next, he will move for a revision of the Rules of this House, particularly the twentieth.

Mr. Perry gives notice, that he will, on Tuesday next, move for leave to bring in a bill to make valid certain marriages heretofore contracted in this Province, and to provide for the future solemnization of marriages in the same.

Mr. Mackenzie gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow, move, that the President and Cashier of the Bank of Upper Canada be required to make a return, without delay, to this House, of the Funds and Property of the said Bank, pursuant to the twenty-third clause of the Bank Act.

Mr. James Wilson gives notice, that, on this day fortnight, he will move for leave to bring in a bill for the putting and keeping in repair the highways, roads, and bridges, within this Province.

Mr. Morris gives notice, that he will move, on to-morrow, for the appointment of a select committee to examine and report on the contingent expenses of the Legislature.

Mr. John Rolph gives notice, that he will, on Monday next, move for leave to bring in a bill for the more easy recovery of dower.

Mr. John Rolph gives notice, that he will, on Monday next, move for leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt.

Mr. Dalton gives notice, that he will, on Monday next, move, that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, requesting him to lay before this House the amount of fines received from officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of Militia in this Province, within the last fifteen years, together with a statement of their appropriation.

Mr. Dalton gives notice, that he will, on Monday next, move that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, requesting him to lay before this House, the names of the several Townships, and the number of acres contained in each, which have been surveyed the last twelve years. Also the number of persons who have located lands in said Townships; the extent of their grants, and the total amount of fees charged by the Government upon the same.

Captain Matthews gives notice, that on Monday next, he will move for leave to bring in a bill to repeal an act authorising the whipping of females in this province.

Mr. James Wilson gives notice, that he will, on Tuesday next, move that an address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, requesting him to lay before this House the correspondence and all other instructions and communications which have passed between His Majesty's Government, the Government of this Province, and the Judges and Crown Officers, upon the removal of Judge Willis from the Court of King's Bench in this Province.

Mr. Mackenzie gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow move for leave to bring in a bill, to vacate the seats of members of this House, in certain cases.

Mr. John Rolph gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow, move for leave to bring in a bill for the repeal of 56th Geo. 3d, ch. 26, permanently granting the sum of two thousand five hundred pounds towards the Civil Government of this Province.

Doctor Baldwin gives notice, that he will, on Tuesday next, move for leave to bring in a bill for the equal return and impanelling of Juries.

Mr. Thompson gives notice, that he will, on Monday the nineteenth instant, move for leave to bring in a bill to repeal an Act, passed in the fifth year of His Majesty's reign, granting the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds annually, for the purchase of Sunday School Books.

Mr. Mackenzie gives notice, that he will, on to-morrow, move for leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the laws of Primogeniture, now in force in this Province.

Adjourned.

Saturday, 10th January, 1829.

The House met.

Prayers were read.

The Minutes of yesterday were read.

Mr. Mackenzie brought up the petition of Thomas Stoyell and others, of the Town of York, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Lyons brought up the petition of Walter Boswell and others, Stockholders in the Cobourg harbor Company, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Perry brought up the petition of Jacob Smith, Junior, and others, of the Gore of Fredericksburgh, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Wilkinen brought up the petition of William Hands and others, of the County of Essex, which was laid on the table.

Mr. George Rolph brought up the petition of Absalom Shade and others, of the Townships of Waterloo, Dumfries, and Beverly, which was laid on the table.

Mr. George Rolph brought up the petition of Benjamin Eby and others, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Wilkinen brought up the petition of Joseph Dugre and others, of the Western District, which was laid on the table.