

Mr. Speaker reports His Excellency's Speech.

whether it may not be advisable to pass some Provincial enactment which shall have the effect of discouraging the introduction of diseased and helpless persons into the Province, without however checking the tide of healthy Immigration, which so powerfully contributes to its advancement.

The numerous projects for the construction of Railways introduced into the Legislature in each succeeding Session, render it expedient, with a view to uniformity of Legislation, and the protection of public and private interests, that an enactment should be passed embodying the provisions generally applicable to such undertakings. I commend this subject to your consideration.

On these and other important matters I shall lay before you communications which have been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The constitution of the University of King's College—a more equitable mode of assessment in Western Canada—and the improvement of the system of Judicature in both sections of the Province—are among the subjects which will probably engage your attention.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I shall direct the Public Accounts, with the Estimates for the present year, to be submitted to you.

I feel confident that you will readily grant the Supplies which are necessary for the public service.

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

You may rely on my disposition to co-operate with you in all measures calculated to promote the public welfare.

Canada possesses in singular abundance the elements of prosperity and social happiness—great natural capabilities—an enterprising, intelligent, and rapidly increasing population,—institutions fitted to reconcile liberty with order—and the blessing of peace secured to her under Providence by the patriotism of her sons and her connexion with a State which is both just and powerful. The duty of turning those advantages to account, in so far as this object can be properly effected by Legislation, devolves upon Parliament. God grant that we may acquit ourselves of the responsibility with fidelity and success.

On motion of Mr. Smith of Frontenac, seconded by Mr. McConnell,

Ordered, That the Clerk do charge to the Contingencies of the House, the Postage on all Letters not exceeding one ounce in weight, and on printed papers, to and from Members of this House during the present Session; provided that when Petitions to this House are enclosed, the postage thereon shall be charged without restriction as to weight.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Cayley, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Daly,

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General, this day delivered to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature, be taken into consideration on Thursday next.

The following Petitions were severally brought up and laid on the table:—

By Mr. Prince,—The Petition of William Caldwell and others, of Amherstburgh, and other parts of the Western District.

By Mr. Chauveau,—The Petition of Joseph Metsalabole and others, Abenakis and Malécites of the Indian Village of Bécancour; the Petition of the Reverend Joseph Maurault, Missionary, and of the Chiefs and Warriors of the Abenakis Village of St. François du Lac St. Pierre; the Petition of the

Reverend George L. Lemoine and others, of the Parish of Beauport, and parts adjacent; and the Petition of Laurent Tremblay and others, Pilots for and below the Harbour of Quebec.

By Mr. Fournier,—The Petition of William Patton and others, of St. Thomas, and the adjoining Parishes.

By Mr. Holmes,—The Petition of the President and Directors of the New City Gas Company of Montreal; and the Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Montreal.

By the Honorable Mr. Aylwin,—The Petition of George O. Stuart, Esquire, and others, Directors of the Quebec Protestant Cemetery Association; the Petition of Mrs. Eliza Taylor, on behalf of the Committee of Ladies conducting the affairs of the Protestant Female Orphan Asylum of Quebec; the Petition of William Black and others, of the Parish of St. Roch, in the City of Quebec; the Petition of James Motz, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, Advocate; the Petition of A. Gaudry and others, Proprietors and Masters of Ships, of the Ports of Quebec and Montreal; the Petition of Antoine Polette, of the Town of Three Rivers, Esquire; the Petition of Lady Sophy Caldwell and other Ladies, the Managers of the Male Orphan Asylum of Quebec in connexion with the Church of England; the Petition of Lady E. Stuart and other Ladies, the Committee of the Quebec Infant School; and the Petition of Joseph Donegani, of the City of Montreal, merchant.

The House taking notice that the respective Returning Officers for the Counties of Kent and Beauharnois, and Town of Three Rivers, had not returned any Member to serve in this Parliament for the said Counties and Town;

Ordered, That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery do forthwith attend this House with the last Returns and Poll Books for the said Counties and Town.

And he attended accordingly with the said Returns and Poll Books, and laid the same before the House.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Aylwin, seconded by Mr. Price,

Ordered, That the Return and Poll Books for the last Election for the County of Beauharnois, be committed to a Committee of the whole House, for to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Notman, seconded by Mr. Wetenhall,

Ordered, That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery do forthwith attend this House with the last Return for the County of Oxford, together with the Poll Books, and all other papers, letters and documents as may have been transmitted to him by the Returning Officer for the said County.

And he attended accordingly with the said Return, Poll Books, and other documents, and laid the same before the House.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Sherwood, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Solicitor General Cameron,  
The House adjourned.

Martis, 29° die Februarii.

ANNO 11 °, VICTORIÆ REGINÆ, 1848.

JOHN WILSON, Esquire, Member for the Town of London, having previously taken the oath, according to law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took his seat in the House.

Petitions brought up.

Kent, Beauharnois, and Three Rivers Elections.

Oxford Election.

Mr. Wilson takes his Seat.