

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, by such Members of this House as are of the Honourable the Executive Council of this Province.

His Excellency's Speech considered.

The Order of the Day for taking into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General, delivered to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature at the opening of the present Session, being read;

The House proceeded accordingly to take the said Speech into consideration.

Mr. Colville moved to resolve, seconded by Mr. Lyon, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his gracious Speech from the Throne.

To congratulate His Excellency upon his assumption of the Government of this Province.

To express the gratification of this House that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to nominate as Her Representative in the *North American Colonies*, a Governor whose previous official career in another Colony of the British Empire, offers the happiest promise, under His Excellency's guidance, of a prosperous administration of the affairs of this great Province.

That we are much gratified to learn that the representations which have proceeded from this and the neighbouring Provinces on the subject of the Post Office have engaged the anxious consideration of the Imperial Government, and that His Excellency is enabled to inform us, that Her Majesty's Ministers are prepared to surrender to the Provincial Authorities, the control of that Department, so soon as, by concert between the several Legislatures, arrangements shall be matured for securing to British *North America* the advantages of an efficient and uniform Post Office System.

That we assure His Excellency of our great satisfaction that the Colonial Legislatures, by a Statute passed during the last Session of the Imperial Parliament, are empowered to repeal differential duties heretofore imposed in the Colonies in favor of British Produce.

That we will give our most attentive consideration to this important subject, and to the communications relating to it, which His Excellency has received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, and from the Lieutenant Governors of *Nova Scotia* and *New Brunswick*.

That His Excellency may rely on our attention being directed to such measures as may be submitted for the purpose of extending more generally Warehousing facilities to Inland Ports, and for effecting other improvements in our Commercial System.

We are gratified to learn that inquiries have been instituted with the view of ascertaining the practicability and probable cost of the construction of a Railway between *Quebec* and *Halifax*, and that a Survey of the proposed line has been undertaken by the Imperial Government, and is still in progress.

We shall be happy to receive from His Excellency the communication of the Despatch from the Secretary of State, describing the course which Her Majesty's Government propose to take in order to remedy the inconvenience which the Provinces of British *North America* have sustained from the operation of the Imperial Statute for the protection of Copy-rights.

The expectation of a large Emigration has, we are prepared to find, rendered prudent measures for providing additional accommodation and medical attendance for the sick, and for increasing the means of forwarding the destitute to places where their labour may be required, and are gratified to learn that an increased grant has been made by the Imperial Parliament in aid of this service: and while we regret the too great probability of much want and suffering

among certain classes of Emigrants, we trust that the favorable anticipations of His Excellency of the character of a large portion of the Emigration may be happily realized.

His Excellency's Speech considered.

That we will give our best consideration to the Accounts of the past year and Estimates of the current year, which will be laid before us by His Excellency; and we learn with the highest satisfaction that there is an increase in the revenue derived from Public Works.

That His Excellency may fully rely upon our making such provision for the maintenance of the establishments and credit of the Province as may be necessary to support the high character for probity and good faith which *Canada* has won for herself, and, we firmly believe, will ever continue to maintain.

That we acknowledge our gratitude to Providence for our exemption from the calamity of famine, with which another part of the Empire has been so severely afflicted, and we thank His Excellency for his congratulations on the liberality which the inhabitants of this Colony of all classes and origins, including our Indian Brethren, have evinced in contributing to the relief of their suffering fellow subjects.

That we concur with His Excellency that the occurrences of the past year, though, in some measure, exceptional, indicate that there is a growing demand in *Europe* for the produce of this Continent, and render it highly important for the inhabitants of *Canada* to improve to the utmost its natural advantages, and those which attach to it, as an integral part of an Empire abounding in wealth and population.

That we duly appreciate the responsibility which rests on Parliament at this conjuncture, and that we will endeavour, by wise legislation, to afford all practicable extension and development to the trade and productive capabilities of the Province, and to give its Institutions that hold on the affections of the people, which is the foundation of public and private credit, and the best security for social progress.

That we thank His Excellency for his promises of cordial co-operation in effecting these important objects, and for his renewal of the assurance of the earnest desire of Our Gracious Queen to promote the prosperity of *Canada*, and the happiness of its people.

The Honorable Mr. Baldwin moved, in amendment, seconded by the Honorable Mr. LaFontaine, That after the words "affairs of this great Province," in the second paragraph of the main motion, the following be inserted, viz:—

"And to state that this House, on this first occasion of approaching His Excellency, cannot, in justice either to their own feelings or those of their constituents, refrain from referring to the gratifying circumstance of His Excellency's connexion with the family of the late Earl of *Durham*. To that distinguished Statesman we are indebted for the Imperial recognition of our undoubted right as British subjects, to have the Government of the Province conducted by the assistance, counsel, and information of a Provincial Administration, under the Representative of the Sovereign, which, while appointed by the Crown in the exercise of its undoubted prerogative, remains responsible to the Provincial Parliament, on the same principles which have been found so perfectly efficacious in the administration of the Government of the Parent State. That grateful for the important part thus taken by him in procuring us this act of constitutional justice, we cannot but indulge the pleasing confidence, that under one so nearly connected with him, and to whom his memory must necessarily be dear, we shall witness the practical application of this great principle, and realize the benefits which it is calculated to secure."