

PRESIDENCY OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

1. Minute of the Executive Council in Committee, 28th October, 1861 :
2. Minute of the Lieutenant Governor, 3rd December, 1861 :
3. The Lieutenant Governor to the Secretary of State, 11th November, 1861 :
4. The Secretary of State to the Lieutenant Governor, 12th December, 1861 :
5. The Lieutenant Governor to the Secretary of State, 1st September, 1862, (with two Enclosures) :
6. The Secretary of State to the Lieutenant Governor, 25th September, 1862 :
7. Minute of the Lieutenant Governor, 14th November, 1862.

A. H. G.

PRESIDENCY OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 1.

Minute of the Executive Council in Committee.

*To His Excellency The Honorable Arthur Hamilton Gordon, C. M. G., &c. &c. &c.
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.*

The Committee of the Executive Council have had under consideration the Despatch of Lord John Russell, dated May 4. 1855, relative to the Presidency of the Legislative Council of New Brunswick ; in which Despatch it is provided that when a vacancy occurs, it is to be filled by a member of the Executive Council, and held by the same political tenure as other members of that body ; and they have arrived at the conclusion, that it would be more satisfactory to that body, and otherwise advantageous, to give them the appointment of their President.

In Canada, Parliament has, by Act passed in 1861, conferred upon the Legislative Council this right ; the 2nd Section of which is as follows :—" The members of the Legislative Council in attendance in the Legislative Council Chamber at the first convening of the said Council after this Act takes effect, and thereafter at each first convening of said Council, after the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of Speaker in the same Council, shall forthwith proceed to elect one of their members to be Speaker ; and the member so from time to time elected Seaker, shall preside at all sittings of the Legislative Council, and continue to be Speaker of the said Council till his death or resignation, or his ceasing to be a member of the said Council, or until the day before the first day of the meeting of the next new Parliament of Canada, after that in which he was so elected Speaker, whichever may first happen."

The Committee of Council desire the adoption of the Canadian rule to this Province, and respectfully request Your Excellency to bring the subject under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, with a view to the attainment of that object.

It is not intended that the contemplated change shall come into operation until the present incumbent ceases to hold that office.

(Signed)

S. L. TILLEY,
A. J. SMITH,
CHARLES WATTERS,
P. MITCHELL,

GEORGE L. HATHEWAY,
WILLIAM PERLEY,
JAMES STEADMAN,
JOHN M'MILLAN.

October 28th, 1861.

No. 2.

Minute of the Lieutenant Governor for the Executive Council.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has had under his consideration the Minute of his Executive Council, dated October 28, 1861, suggesting an alteration of the mode in which it was arranged in 1855 that the President of the Legislative Council should be for the future chosen.

On the 16th January in that year, the Executive Council requested the then Lieutenant Governor to transmit to the Secretary of State a Minute, in which they recommended that upon the death or resignation of the then President of the Legislative Council, the office