

excellency, directed the gentlemen of the Assembly to retire to their room, and there make choice of some proper person as Speaker.

The members having returned to their own chamber, S. G. W. Archibald, Esq. was unanimously chosen. The members having again returned to the Council Chamber, S. S. Poole, Esq. presented to his Excellency S. G. Archibald, Esq. for his approval. His Excellency having signified his assent to their choice, the speaker demanded the usual privileges of the House, which his Excellency granted, and delivered the following speech :

Mr. President and Gentlemen of his Majesty's Council.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

It affords me sincere pleasure to have in my power, at the opening of this session of a new Assembly, to use the same language of congratulation, as respects the peace and prosperity of the province, in which I addressed the legislature at its last meeting.

Although the last harvest has been less productive than usual, and the season proved rather unfavorable to our fisheries; yet, I have reason to believe, that a steady and progressive improvement has taken place in almost every branch of our domestic industry.

Several circumstances have, I think, contributed to effect a prosperous change in the general state of the province within the last two years.

The people, I am led to believe, have become more provident and prudent in the management of their affairs—They seldom engage in speculations beyond their means, and they already feel in a sensible degree the good effects of the liberal policy of the mother country in extending to the colonies the blessings of commercial freedom, and affording new facilities to their trade and navigation.

I expressed a confident expectation, at the opening of the last session of the Legislature, that these enlightened measures of his Majesty's Go-

vernment would be productive of many advantages to this Province, and I have great satisfaction in being able to inform you that the hope, I then entertained, has not been disappointed.

The revenue is already considerably increased—commerce has assumed more activity and enterprise—the coasting trade is in a thriving state, and the condition of almost all classes of people has materially improved.

Our prospects probably were never more encouraging than at the present time, and, under the blessing of Divine Providence, Nova-Scotia cannot fail to attain a high state of commercial and agricultural prosperity, if due advantage is taken of her local situation and her manifold resources.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

I shall direct the public accounts for the last year to be laid before you, for your inspection, and I trust you will find that the supplies granted to his Majesty in the last session have been faithfully applied.

The revenue has been collected with great regularity, and it is highly creditable to the mercantile community, and gratifying to me, to state, that it has not been found necessary to put a single bond for duties in suit during the year.

I shall also direct the usual estimates to be submitted to you, and I confidently rely on your making the necessary provision for the services of the current year.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of his Majesty's Council.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

As every important political event, which affects the Parent State, must be deeply interesting to her colonies, I think it proper to inform you, that his Majesty has found it necessary to send a British force to Portugal (in conformity to the terms of a solemn treaty) to aid his Majesty's ancient Ally, the Sovereign of that country, against a hostile aggression.

The prompt and vigorous measures