

JOURNAL
OF
THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIFTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, January 25, 1842.

THE House having, by several Proclamations, been prorogued until this day, then to meet for the dispatch of business:

And being met—

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by George Wright, Esquire, Usher of the Black Rod.

Mr. Speaker;

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor commands the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker and the House went up to attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber—and being returned—

Mr. Speaker reported, that when the House did attend His Excellency this day in the Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Legislature, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, which was read by the Clerk, and is as follows:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislature Council;

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

It is my peculiar province and happiness to open this session, by congratulating you upon the Birth of a Prince, Heir apparent to the Throne of the British Empire, and also upon the perfect restoration of Her Majesty to health; these are blessings which will call forth the expression of your profound thankfulness to the Almighty, and of your warmest loyalty towards our gracious and excellent Sovereign.

Amongst the subjects of public interest which will claim your consideration, I have especially to call your attention

to the Education Bill, which expires this session. It is as unnecessary for me to descant upon the important influence which instruction has upon society, as it is for me to point out how truly it becomes the duty of those who possess education to assist in its extension—deception, bigotry and crime diminish under its increase. I also recommend to your examination the system by which the Central Academy is governed, with the view of ascertaining whether, by alteration in that Institution, it might not gain a higher position in the public estimation.

The replies which have been received from Her Majesty to your several Addresses of the last Session will be laid before you; I shall also take occasion to submit other matters, as they may arise, by Message.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

The Public Accounts and Estimates for the current year will be placed before you; and I rely upon your voting the necessary supplies.

I must direct your attention to the danger to which the Records, and other Documents relating to this Colony, are exposed, for want of proper buildings wherein they can be lodged in safety—to construct which, it appears, an additional grant is necessary; this subject merits your earliest consideration.

The prosperity of this Colony being mainly dependent upon Agriculture, I would place that pursuit before your notice. I therefore recommend the consideration of measures tending to draw the chief efforts of the inhabitants towards the reclamation of the forest lands; and although I doubt the soundness of that policy which encourages one line of industry at the expense of others, yet I would suggest the advantage of offering encouragement to the importation, by private individuals, of improved breeds of farming stock, and seeds employed in husbandry, by admitting them free of duty.

I have to place again before you the subject of the proposed Asylum for "Insane persons and other objects of Charity." I trust this measure, so long contemplated, will be now completed; for I will not believe it possible that you will continue to withhold so necessary a shelter from this