

the transmission of sound is infinitely more rapid than in the open air, or actually occupies no time whatever.

A series of experiments made a few years since by M. Biot and other French mathematicians when the iron pipes were laying down for conveying water to Paris, seem to promise an unbounded power of transmission. They joined long ranges of those pipes to each other, so as to make a continued tube of several miles. The results were, that the lowest whisper at the one end of the tube was heard with the most perfect distinctness at the other, and that it was heard instantaneously. The moment the speaker at one end was seen to apply his lips to the tube, his words were heard at the other. If this discovery should be substantiated by the railway tube, man will possess another power over nature of the most curious and useful kind. The telegraph, admirable invention as it is, would be a toy to an instrument by which a public order or any other piece of intelligence could be conveyed at its full length from the seat of government to a seaport, or any other important spot of the kind, equally in fog and clear weather, night and day, and without even the delay that occurs by the telegraph. The sailing and triumph of a fleet, the surprise of an enemy, a stroke that might decide the fate of a nation, might be the consequence of this simple invention. And its value would be still enhanced, if in the course of time, it could be turned to the individual use of the community; if a system could be established allowing every body to avail himself of this mode of communication; like the Post Office, the intercourse of which was originally established only for the uses of the state and monarchs, but is now turned to the service of every man who desires to write a letter.

AMERICA.

COLONIAL.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

UPPER CANADA.

YORK, THURSDAY, November 17, 1831.

This day at three o'clock, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor proceeded in the usual state, from the Government House to the Chamber of the Honourable the Legislative Council, where being arrived and seated on the Throne, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was sent with a Message from His Excellency to the House of Assembly commanding their attendance. The Members present being come up accordingly, His Excellency was pleased to open the Session of the Legislature with the following

SPEECH.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

I meet you in Provincial Parliament before the expiration of the usual period of recess, as the opening of the Session at this season appears in every respect more convenient to the Province than in the early part of the year.

Several regulations respecting the trade of the Colonies have been introduced in this Province since the close of the last session, which His Majesty's Government is confident will promote the general prosperity of the Canadas, by encouraging a free commercial intercourse on the St. Lawrence; and increasing your exportations.

An Alteration in the Timber Duties was contemplated: it had in view, however, solely the repeal of certain fiscal regulations bearing unequally on the trade of England; and you may be assured that should a change or modification in the scale of Duties be at any time proposed, His Majesty's Ministers are so fully convinced of the importance of the North American Colonies to the strength and power of the British Empire, that they will not cease to feel that the progressive development of their resources is an object of the greatest interest to which they can direct their attention.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I have ordered the Accounts of the Revenue and Expenditure of the current year to be laid before you, and also the Estimates for the supplies required for the ensuing year, to be prepared, assuming that the Civil List Bill passed last Session will come into operation on the 1st January next. I trust that you will make the necessary provision for the Public Service.

Honourable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

The King, persuaded that the Judges shall now be established in this portion of His Dominions, independent on the Royal authority, and on the pleasure of the popular branch of the Legislature, has commanded that the enactment of a Bill shall be proposed to you, declaring that the Commissions of the Judges of the Supreme Court shall be granted, to endure during good behaviour and not during the Royal pleasure.

I shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity to acquaint you by Message, with the further instructions transmitted to me, referring to this additional proof of His Majesty's desire to promote the welfare of the Colony.

In every district much benefit has been derived from the last grant to improve the highways; but you can neither give activity

and perseverance to an advantageous internal commerce, nor render immediate value to the industry and capital gained by the recent extensive emigration to this Province, without establishing a system for ensuring the effectual repair of roads and bridges, and the improvement of the principal communications of the back Townships. Your exertions and local experience, in considering this subject; the measures proposed to guide the future periodical emigrations and the aid intended to be granted by His Majesty's Government, for the encouragement of District and Township schools, and the advancement of the purposes of education; will gradually prepare the Colony for the reception of agricultural classes leaving the Parent State; which soon, I hope, we shall see spreading over the most fertile tracts of the Province, and enjoying a competence that few industrious settlers in this prosperous country of their adoption do not attain.

The Members present at the opening of the session were—the Speaker, Attorney General, Beardsley, Berczy, Bidwell, Buell, Boulton, Cook, Duncumb, Elliott, A. Fraser, Howard, Jarvis, Ketchum, M'Call, Mackenzie, M'Nab, Sampson, Shade, Shaver, Solicitor General, Werden, and Wkite—24.

LOWER CANADA.

QUEBEC, TUESDAY, November 15, 1831.

This day, at two o'clock, His Excellency the Governor in Chief came down in State to the Legislative Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was sent down to the House of Assembly to command their attendance before His Excellency, and that House being come up, His Excellency was pleased to open the second Session of the Fourteenth Provincial Parliament, with the following

SPEECH.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

It affords me much satisfaction to meet you again in Provincial Parliament, and I trust that the season of the year which has been chosen for your meeting will prove to be the most suitable to the convenience of the majority of the two Houses.

The liberal appropriations of the Legislature during the last session, for internal communication and other objects of public utility in the Province, appear, generally speaking, to have been expended with judgment, and a due regard to economy by the Commissioners appointed to carry those objects into effect, and the beneficial results which have already attended these undertakings hold out every encouragement to the Legislature to proceed in the same course, by the grant of further aid towards the accomplishment of such of them as are still in progress, and for the commencement of others. Amongst the various objects of this nature which will claim your notice in the course of this session, I wish particularly to point out:—

- 1st.—The Kempt Road between Metis and Ristigouche.
- 2nd.—The Communication between St. John's and Laprairie.
- 3rd.—The further improvement of the Harbour of Montreal.
- 4th.—The Road from the Townships to St. Hyacinthe, by the outlet of Lake Memphremagog.
- 5th.—The improvement of the Communications between the Townships and the City of Quebec.
- 6th.—The erection of Gaols and Court Houses in the several Counties of the Province.

I cannot too early or too earnestly endeavour to impress on your minds the importance of facilitating the means of Communication between the Townships and the Cities of Quebec and Montreal, for it is a subject intimately connected with the interests and welfare of the Province at large.

The construction and improvement of Roads and Bridges will serve to give vent to the surplus produce of that interesting portion of the Country, and whilst the Industry of its inhabitants is thereby stimulated by the prospect of advantage, a free and ready personal intercourse will be promoted with their fellow subjects on the banks of the St. Lawrence, to whom they are now almost strangers, but with whom they are united by Political and social ties—governed by the same Laws, sharing one common interest.

Of the Laws about to expire there are some which will require alterations and amendments in the event of their renewal by the Legislature.

The alarming accounts which reached this country in the course of the last summer and autumn of the ravages of the Cholera Morbus in some parts of Europe, rendered it expedient as a measure of precaution, to put in force the provisions of the Act 35 Geo. III. cap 5, for guarding against the introduction of Disease into the Province, but there appears to be no ground to apprehend that we shall be visited by this dreadful scourge, and I notice the subject chiefly with the view to allay any uneasiness which might have been created by the precautionary measures to which I have just alluded.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

It will be my duty to communicate to you without loss of time, a copy of a Despatch addressed to me by Viscount Goderich, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, having reference to your Petition addressed to His Majesty, touching certain matters of complaint, which Petition was forwarded by me in the course of the last Session at your request, for the purpose of being laid at the foot of the Throne.

All practicable diligence shall be used in completing the Public Accounts for the nine months just expired, so as to be laid before you if possible, previous to the expiration of the period prescribed by Law.

An estimate of the Expenses for the ensuing year will at the same time be laid before you.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

Although the flourishing state of the Province is a matter of public notoriety, because, happily it is felt by all its inhabitants, I cannot resist noticing this subject on the present occasion, that I may enjoy the pleasure of offering you my congratulations upon it. The practical effect of this state of prosperity, as connected with the objects of your present meeting, will be, I doubt not, to give fresh energy to your efforts, for the further improvement of the Country. For myself, Gentlemen, be assured that no diligence

shall be wanting on my part to give effect to those measures, which your wisdom and experience shall devise.

Gentlemen,

When I addressed you at the opening of the last Session, being then a stranger to you all, I was actuated as ever I have been, and ever shall continue to be, by a sense of duty, and devotion to my Royal Master, which is of itself sufficient to command the exertions of every power of my mind in his service—since that time a new, and powerful stimulus to exertion has found a place in my breast,—I mean the attachment, the daily increasing attachment I feel, to the people of this happy land.—This sentiment is present with me wherever I go—it sweetens every official occupation, and as I set about my daily task of duty it teaches me to ask myself this question—

“What can I do this day to promote the happiness and prosperity of Canada?”

ST. JOHN. 'YARMOUTH TELEGRAPH.'—We with much pleasure acknowledge the receipt of the first number of a Newspaper bearing the above title, published by Messrs. L'Estrange & Jackson, at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, and which issued from the Press on Friday, the 25th ult. It is in every way creditable to the Publishers; and the goodly list of advertisements it contains, speak favourably for the spirited inhabitants of that flourishing town—they, and indeed all that section of the country, will doubtless feel and appreciate the advantage of having the Press in operation among them, and we cordially wish the Publishers every encouragement in their undertaking.—May they have cause to say, that their lines have indeed fallen to them in pleasant places.—We take the following paragraph from a communication in the Telegraph, which gives a pleasing picture of the prosperous condition of the place:

“Our advancing prosperity may be distinctly seen in the goodness of our own public roads which are every year improving; improved and more comfortable buildings are seen on every road, larger and more substantial vessels are employed in commerce, provisions are abundant; animal stock and carriages have much increased since the last ten years, as also a much larger stock of merchandise, dress and furniture; and the population increases at 3 per cent. per annum.”

SNOW—AGAIN.—Early yesterday morning, a snow storm set in, which resembled one of the old-fashioned North Easterns we were accustomed to expect some ten or twelve years ago. It continued with unabated fury till evening, when it ceased snowing, but the drift continued during the night with a gale from the North West.—The sleighing during all last week was excellent in both town and country; and the recent fall of snow, with the accompanying frosts, we think, will have a good effect upon the river, in forming and strengthening the ice. The winter has commenced earlier and with greater severity than for several years past.

Fresh Salmon in December!—On Thursday last, the 1st inst. some twenty fine fat fresh Salmon were exhibited in our market. They were caught about 12 miles above the Falls.

HALIFAX. News, Weather, &c.—We have scarcely had an arrival of any kind for eight or ten days, and are therefore without any later news. The Mercator from Scotland is hourly looked for, and we may expect the November Packet in a few days. After a long and delightful summer, a mild and pleasant autumn, we are pleased to hail the approach of winter, which has come upon us in right good earnest. On Monday se'night we had a slight fall of snow, which lying very level, and being followed by clear cold weather, made tolerable sleighing. On Sunday night it commenced snowing again, and it continued to fall until Monday evening. We have now a fine clear atmosphere, with as much snow on the ground as fell at any one time during the last winter; and sleighs, which have not of late years been in requisition before January or February, are now dashing about the town in great numbers.

ST. ANDREWS.—The American barque Orion, arrived at this port on Thursday last from Pernambuco, which place she left on the 2nd inst. and brings a report that the Brazilian troops revolted about three weeks previous to the departure of that vessel. Their first object was to plunder the stores, and the inhabitants generally remained inactive whilst the destruction of the property was proceeded with, until at length they were aroused by the energy of the foreign merchants, particularly the French and English, who, with their clerks, offered the most determined resistance to the lawless acts of the soldiery, and ultimately succeeded in restoring order, after killing about two hundred, and making about five hundred prisoners.

FREDERICTON.—The Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts has proceeded to found the Scholarships for Students in Divinity, which were some time since promised to the College. They are six in number, of the annual value of £30 sterling each; and may be held for seven years from the time of matriculation. A preference is to be given to the Sons of Missionaries, otherwise duly qualified; and the Students who may accept these Scholarships will be understood *bona fide* to devote themselves to the Sacred Profession. The Scholarships date from the 1st July last.