

We deeply regret that in some parts of the Province serious outrages on the peace of the Community have taken place; but while we lament their existence, we entirely concur in the propriety of adopting energetic measures to render life and property more secure, and shall cheerfully lend our utmost aid for the accomplishment of this desirable object.

Any measure which can be devised for settling the claims of the Indian Population to their Lands, we beg to assure Your Excellency, shall have our careful consideration.

We are glad to learn from Your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have it in contemplation to afford assistance in relieving the destitute and diseased Emigrants who have lately arrived in the Province; and that an Asylum has been formed in Saint John for their Orphan Children.

Whatever means may be suggested which shall have a tendency to check the progress of Epidemics, shall receive our cordial concurrence.

We shall give the utmost attention to any project by which the system of opening Roads and constructing Bridges may be improved, the settlement of Lands facilitated, and other objects of public importance advanced, in the hope that the general prosperity of the Province may thereby be augmented.

By the visitation of Providence, as Your Excellency has observed, a depression has been experienced in the Mother Country, which we deeply deplore, and in its injurious effects must largely participate; but we fervently join in the hope expressed by Your Excellency, that the public prosperity of that great Country, to which it is our pride and happiness to belong, may amid all changes of her general policy, be established on a more solid basis, and beneficial results, under the blessing of the Most High, cannot fail to be experienced throughout the Empire.

#### HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen,*

I request you to accept my warm acknowledgments for your dutiful and loyal Address, and for the assurance of your co-operation in forwarding the business of the Session, the issue of which I feel every confidence will justify the public expectations.

#### THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

*To His Excellency Sir WILLIAM MACBÉAN GEORGE COLEBROOKE, K. H., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We beg to express our thanks to Your Excellency for the Speech delivered at the opening of the Session; and we trust that the labours of the present meeting, convened thus early from Your Excellency's desire to hasten the maturing of measures applicable to our situation, may realize the just expectations of the Province; the deficiency of the late Harvest in many parts of which, as well as the recent check to Commerce, renders it incumbent on the Legislature to give its utmost aid towards the advancement of Agriculture, the Fisheries, and every other source of productive wealth.

We join Your Excellency in the hope that the Act of last Session, for the improvement of Parish Schools, which has already accomplished the long desired object of introducing a supply of Elementary Books, may become extensively beneficial to the present and rising generation; and that the establishment of a Model and Training School will be a means of infusing still further facilities into that Department of Public Education.

While we cannot conceal our regret that no final adjustment of the Canadian Boundary Question has as yet been made, we are happy to learn that the necessary explorations appear to have been completed in such manner as to lead Your Excellency to anticipate a result consistent with the Territorial rights of this Province; and we beg to assure Your Excellency that we shall give to the Communication from Her Majesty's Government on the Railway Survey that attention which so important a subject demands.

We learn, with much satisfaction, that the Survey of the Bay of Fundy, a work productive of so many advantages to National and Inter-Colonial Trade, may be expected to be resumed in the ensuing Spring.

To all Communications connected with the Post Office we shall not fail to give due attention, with a hope that such arrangements may be effected as may be beneficial to the Public as well as to the Revenue, by introducing an improved system in the general management of that Department.

We participate in Your Excellency's regret that recent disturbances, in some few places within the Province, should have constituted an exception to that general peace and happiness which this highly favoured portion of Her Majesty's Dominions has so long enjoyed; we believe, however, that the character of the people is still unimpaired, and that public opinion will be in unison with those measures, which we shall cheerfully support, for the preservation of the peace, the security of life and property, and the strengthening and maintaining the authorities of the Country; and with a view to prevent the recurrence of those outrages, so inconsistent with the moral and social condition of the Province, the improvement of the means of secondary punishment in the Prisons shall receive our deliberate attention.

We shall readily attend to any proposed amendment of the Law for facilitating a satisfactory adjustment of the claims of the Indian

Population, and the persons residing on the Reserves; and Your Excellency may be assured of our earnest desire to adopt such measures, in relation to this subject, as may do equal justice to the parties, and conduce to the credit and advantage of the Province.

It is most gratifying to learn that the Revenues of the past year have not been affected by the general depression of Trade, and it is our earnest desire to regulate the amount of Duties on the Imports in such a manner as may be consistent with the Public Service, and the various interests involved.

We shall receive the Accounts of the last year, with full confidence that the Funds placed at the disposal of Government have been expended with due attention to Public Economy.

We lament the existence of any circumstances in the United Kingdom by which a multitude of human beings afflicted by disease, and in other respects incapable of becoming useful settlers, should have been transferred to this Province; and while we notice that Your Excellency has expressed your approbation of the humanity and zeal manifested by the Local Authorities in co-operating with the Provincial Government in alleviating their sufferings, we are happy to learn that the justice of defraying the expense out of the National Treasury has been made apparent to Her Majesty's Government, and that application is being made to Parliament for an appropriation in aid of those expenses. Such a measure well attests an anxiety to protect the interests of the Province, and to mitigate the evils attendant on the removal to this Colony of so large a number of helpless people. It is matter of deep regret that the mortality has been great; and we shall gladly further any measures desired by Her Majesty's Government, by which Emigration may, in future, be regulated for the good of the Emigrant and the safety of the Province.

Our attention shall be given to the means of preserving the Public Health, with a view (under Providence) to prevent the introduction and spread of Epidemic disease.

The Correspondence with Her Majesty's Government, on the subject of the annual Road Acts, shall have our serious consideration, and due attention shall be given to any proposition tending to improve the Law now in operation for the opening of Roads and construction of Bridges, whereby the settlement of Wilderness Lands may be accelerated, and further encouragement extended to industrious settlers. Measures calculated to facilitate the judicious application of the Public Credit,—to develop the Resources of the Province,—sustain its Revenues, and preserve the Community from the distresses attendant on disturbances in the general course of Trade, shall have that care which the Provincial Legislature has ever extended to objects of such magnitude and importance.

The history of this loyal Province, and the fostering care and protection extended to it heretofore by that great Nation, of which it is an appendage, leads us confidently to expect that its true interests will never be overlooked in any general policy of the Empire intended for the establishment of National Prosperity.

#### HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,*

I return you my cordial thanks for your dutiful and loyal Address.

The pledge of your support in the promotion of measures of so much importance to the Province is very gratifying to me, and I anticipate no less of satisfaction to yourselves than of benefit to the Public, from the issue of a Session upon which you have entered with so zealous and patriotic a disposition to do justice to the interests confided to you.

#### NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.

HALIFAX, January 22, 1848.

At two o'clock this day, His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir John Harvey, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, came down in State to the Council Chamber, and having taken his seat on the Throne, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was sent to require the immediate attendance of the House of Assembly—the House attended accordingly, and His Excellency was pleased to open the Session with the following SPEECH:—

*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

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

I have pleasure in meeting the Legislature of this ancient and loyal Colony at this the first Session of its Nineteenth General Assembly.

It will be my duty, at an early period, to lay before you a Despatch from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, explanatory of His Lordship's views of the principles affecting the Administration of Colonial Government, as applicable to this Province, in some important particulars.

These principles cannot fail to exercise a powerful influence over the future prosperity of Nova Scotia; and I am happy to encourage the belief that you will justly appreciate the enlightened and liberal sentiments of the Imperial Government, which pervade this Despatch; and that His Lordship's expectation of the spirit in which these sentiments will be met, in this Country, will not be disappointed.

Next in interest and importance is the fact, which I am enabled to announce to you, that a good and practicable Line for the projected Rail Road between this Port and Quebec, has been ascertained by the Officers to whom that Exploration was confided. I am prepared to concur with you in making the necessary provision for the