

## ADDRESS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

IN ANSWER TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE PRESENT SESSION.

*To His Excellency Sir EDMUND WALKER HEAD, Baronet, Lieutenant Governor and  
Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.*

THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF HER MAJESTY'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENED.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Legislative Council of New Brunswick, thank Your Excellency for the Speech at the opening of the present Session.

Deploring the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, we learn with much interest the joyful event of the birth of another Prince.

While acknowledging with gratitude the blessings of an abundant Crop, we participate in the hope expressed by Your Excellency that our improving Trade may be so prudently conducted as to prevent those sudden revulsions which so often interrupt a course of prosperity.

We entirely agree with Your Excellency in the importance of improved means of communication to aid the developement of our resources, and shall cheerfully concur in any suitable measure which may be laid before us, or may be devised, for the accomplishment of these objects, and for encouraging the application of capital to Railroads, and enterprises of the like nature. Participating fully in Your Excellency's gratification at the favourable prospect presented by the progress of the Saint Andrews Railroad, it would be a source of the highest satisfaction to find, at no distant day, that Halifax, and by it the Mother Country, are by a similar undertaking linked with the flourishing places in this Province referred to by Your Excellency, and with the great Country on the western border; while the establishment of the Great Trunk Railway to Quebec would then, as Your Excellency observes, become more probable, and the interests and prosperity of these Provinces be identified.

In furtherance of these views, we shall receive with pleasure the Reports of the preliminary Survey of a Line of Railway between the Valley of the Saint John and the Saint Croix.

We are gratified to learn from Your Excellency that the recent Acts for the encouragement of Agriculture have proved beneficial, and Your Excellency may be assured of our undiminished attention to this most prominent subject.

We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that further valuable information has been procured, and will be laid before us, in regard to our Fisheries.

Feeling that the improvement of our communication with Canada by the River Saint John is of great importance to both Provinces, we receive with much satisfaction the information afforded by Your Excellency, that the works authorized by recent appropriations have been commenced and are to be persevered in.

We rejoice to learn that Her Most Gracious Majesty has been pleased to leave to its operation the Act relating to our Provincial Postal arrangements, and we shall not fail to afford our favourable consideration to any suggestions that may be made for perfecting the Law relating to this subject.

We have long been impressed with the paramount importance of the subject of general Education, and concur in the sentiment expressed by Your Excellency, that the education of the people at large offers the best security for order and obedience to the Laws; and we shall anxiously consider any measure which may be submitted to us for the encouragement and improvement of Common Schools.

We have much satisfaction in learning from Your Excellency that there is now a reasonable prospect of terminating the long pending dispute in regard to the Boundary Line between this Province and Canada; and we have every confidence, from the high standing and character of the arbitrators, that their decision will be in accordance with the principles of right and justice.

Any measures which may be presented to us for altering the manner of originating the Votes of Supply for the Public Service, and for the creation of local Bodies for the expenditure of Public Moneys for local purposes, shall receive a deliberate and careful consideration.

Viewing the speedy and satisfactory administration of justice as of the first importance to the welfare of the community, Your Excellency may rely upon our anxiety to devote ourselves to the careful consideration of any measure having for its object the improvement of the procedure in Courts of Law and Equity, especially such as will render the proceedings more simple and less expensive to suitors.