

We thank Your Excellency for the information that the Acts for facilitating the discharge of Crown Debts by the labour of the debtors are in successful operation.

It gives us much satisfaction to learn that the Mineral discoveries in this Province are attracting the attention of Capitalists; and feeling the importance of clearly defining the rights of the Crown as well as of the owners of the soil in regard to these valuable deposits, we shall be prepared to take into consideration any measure that may be devised for the purpose.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that we shall await with much interest the Communication from the Secretary of State in reference to this Branch of the Legislature, and shall be most anxious to discover, in any suggestions which may be made or steps taken in regard to this very grave subject, that no departure is contemplated from the true spirit of the British Constitution, which hitherto has been so closely adhered to and cherished by the Legislative Council of New Brunswick.

REPLY :

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

" Your Address affords me additional evidence of your loyal feeling to the Queen, and of your anxiety to promote the welfare of the people.

" I have received it with much satisfaction, and I thank you for it."

ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

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 the House of Assembly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, Her Majesty's Faithful and Loyal Subjects, the Representatives of the People of New Brunswick, offer our thanks to Your Excellency for the Speech addressed to us at the opening of the Session.

We receive with pleasure Your Excellency's announcement of the birth of another Prince, while we deeply regret the decease of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

The abundant Harvest with which a kind Providence has crowned the labours of the last Season—the improvements perceptible in the various branches of our Commerce and the present state of the Treasury, we regard as subjects of congratulation, affording the strongest evidence of an advance in the general prosperity of the Province. We trust, with Your Excellency, that the experience of the past will so regulate the engagements of those who embark in our principal Exports, as to prevent the recurrence of those occasional revulsions which have disturbed the Commercial affairs of the Province, and we feel an honest pride in assuring Your Excellency that we have the most unbounded reliance in the energy and enterprise of the people we represent, and that they will avail themselves with avidity of any channels for the developing of the great natural resources of the Country, which it may be in the power of the Legislature to open to them.

We cordially agree in the sentiments expressed by Your Excellency as to the permanent value to be attached to the construction of Railways in the Province, and we do not hesitate to give our strongest pledges to Your Excellency, that any measure, compatible with our means to expedite and advance their introduction and completion, will be most favourably received by us.

Whether undertakings of this nature are likely to be more successfully conducted under the immediate management of the Government than through the medium of private companies, is a subject which has elicited a great diversity of opinion; but we are inclined to coincide with the views expressed by Your Excellency, that the details of such great works may be left, with greater safety to the public, in other hands than those of the Government.

While we cannot but look with the deepest interest to the success which we hope will attend the unwearied enterprise and perseverance evinced in the commencement and progress of the Saint Andrews Railway, we are sincerely gratified by the assurance of Your Excellency's confidence, that Her Majesty's Government and the British people will hail with unmixed pleasure and satisfaction the great project which has not only entirely arrested the attention of Her Majesty's Subjects in this and the adjoining Provinces, but has secured the hearty co-operation of the most prominent men of all parties in the great Nation on our Western Borders.