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All Official Notifications appearing in this Paper, duly authenticated, are to be received as such by the persons whom they may concern



BY AUTHORITY.



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

EDMUND HEAD.

## A PROCLAMATION.

**W**HEREAS it is probable that England and France may be involved in hostilities, and may be called on to act in strict union and alliance for purposes offensive and defensive against Russia, I do hereby require and enjoin all Officers or Servants of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and all Her Majesty's Subjects of the Province of New Brunswick, to afford to French Subjects and French Commerce, protection and aid similar to that which they are bound to afford to the Subjects and Commerce of Great Britain and Ireland; and I do hereby command them for the purposes aforesaid, to co-operate zealously and efficiently with Her Majesty's Naval Forces.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Fredericton, the twenty first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty four, and in the seventeenth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command.

J. R. PARTELOW.

THE following Despatches, relating to the Financial System of the Province, are published by authority.

Copy—No. 5.

Government House, Fredericton, N. B.  
14th January, 1854.

MY LORD DUKE,—I think it my duty to furnish Your Grace with some information respecting the present condition of the Finances of the Colony.

2. There are three points to which I am desirous of calling Your Grace's attention. The first is the present prosperous condition of our income; the second is the mode in which the Executive Government have applied the surplus now existing; and the third is the future management and control of the financial affairs of the Province.

In the first place I enclose a statement of the Revenue of the year just ended (1853), as compared with that of the year preceding (1852). It will afford Your Grace much satisfaction to see the large increase which has taken place in almost every item; this increase is the more striking because the Revenue of 1852 was in itself in excess of that of 1851 by more than £20,000 currency, so that the difference between 1851 and 1853 amounts to £67,364 currency, or nearly 60 per cent. on the Revenue of the first of these two years: It will be borne in mind that the tariff during these three years has not varied.

3. Your Grace will be glad to observe that the amount of the Casual Revenue from Land and Timber in the year just ended (being £16,000) exceeds very considerably the amount of the Civil List, in exchange for which it was ceded.

4. I proceed in the next place to state what steps have been taken by the Executive Government for applying to the best advantage the surplus Revenue now on hand. The enclosed Report from the Provincial Secretary, will show Your Grace that my Council have advised the immediate discharge of the outstanding debt due to the Bank of British North America; I have cordially approved of this recommendation, and the Bank having consented to receive the money, I have authorized the Treasurer to pay off the Debentures which would otherwise have become due by instalments in the course of the next five years.

5. This will at once enable the Assembly, if they think fit so to do, to repeal the Loan Duty of one per cent. on imports which was appropriated to meet this charge, and will save the interest which would have become due until the loan was paid off.

The estimates of last year were framed upon the supposition that the Revenue of this year would be about equal to that of last, £138,320; whereas the excess above that sum is £46,407 currency; consequently, by appropriating at once, on the responsibility of the Executive Government, this £25,000 currency to pay the debt due the Bank of British North America, we are not encroaching on the means which the Assembly will have at their disposal for all ordinary purposes.

I request Your Grace to take the trouble of perusing the Report of the Provincial Secretary, with whom the idea of at once paying off the outstanding debt originated, and who deserves full credit for the proposal.

6. It remains to advert to the third question, the future management and control of the money affairs of New Brunswick. I am not sorry that it falls to my lot to discuss this question in a Despatch to Your Grace, at a moment when the period assigned for my Administration of this Government is about to terminate; I pretend to no credit for any portion of the present prosperity; it is, under the blessing of Providence, due to the industry and energy of our own people, and to the wise and enlightened course of commercial policy persevered in by the Mother Country: On the other hand I think that the observations which I may now address to Your Grace with respect to the defective management of our finances, will carry with them greater weight, because they cannot be suggested by any desire of securing more patronage to myself as Lieutenant Governor, or by the wish to exercise a more direct control over the details of the public expenditure.

7. The Finance Committee of the Assembly in the course of the last Session, brought under notice of the House, the urgent necessity of placing "the finances of the Country in such a position that the expenditure should not exceed the income."

It is a matter of congratulation that at the present time our expenditure is far within our income; but I understand the Committee to speak with reference to the future, and with a view to the adoption of some secure and organised system of financial administration, which may guarantee the continuance of such a state of things. Indeed I am not sure but that an expectation exists of some scheme for this purpose being proposed by the Executive Government in the present Session.

8. At any rate it is clear that with an increasing Revenue and the prospect of Railways and other public works before us, the importance of the whole subject is increasing very rapidly. The credit of the Province is a necessary element in the encouragement of great public works, and the credit of the Province will not be adequately upheld by an augmented Revenue without a sound system of administration: Our population will increase, and if every man may hope to dip his hand in the public purse, the power of absorption by local jobs and petty expenditure will be at least as unlimited as any future prospect of surplus income.

9. I do full credit to the vigilance and honesty of the present officers:—The Provincial Treasurer is an able and an efficient public servant; he is in fact the permanent head of our Treasury and our Custom House, and as such I think that he is not sufficiently remunerated for the amount of his work and responsibility by the reduced salary of £500 currency: Probably however it will hereafter strike the Legislature that an increasing trade and an increasing Revenue must throw more labour upon Mr. Beverley Robinson, and require as a matter of justice increased remuneration.

10. I have no complaint to make of the Auditor or the Receiver General; indeed the duties of this latter officer are confined to the receipt of the Casual Revenue, and might under proper restrictions be handed over to the Provincial Treasurer. Greater vigour and efficiency might be given to the system pursued in the Auditor's