



# Royal Gazette Extra.

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[Page 61 A

**By Authority.**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,**

FREDERICTON, 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 1868.

THIS being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at half-past two o'clock His Excellency Colonel FRANCIS PYM HARDING, C. B., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, came to the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly, who being come, His Excellency was pleased to open the Session with the following

## S P E E C H .

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

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

" I have much pleasure in meeting you in General Assembly, and in being able to congratulate you on the generally prosperous state of the Province.

" Providence has, during the last year, blessed the labours of the husbandman. Our Fisheries, as far as prosecuted, have been generally successful; although, I regret to observe that, in some portions of our Sister Province of Nova Scotia, they exhibit a lamentable failure;—the consequent distress and destitution of those engaged in the business will, I am sure, excite your warmest sympathy.

" While circumstances beyond our control have, to a certain extent, damped the prospects of our enterprising shipbuilders, yet I trust that, with the continuance of Peace in Europe, and the consequent improvement in the Trade and Commerce of the World, combined with the facilities for shipbuilding in this Province, and the acknowledged energy and skill of our people, we may reasonably hope for an improvement in this most important branch of business.

" The Provincial Exhibition held at Saint John during the last Autumn, gave satisfactory evidence of the advanced state of our Manufactures.

" It is highly gratifying to me to be able to inform you that the state of our Revenue is very satisfactory, and that after providing for all the ordinary services, there will be a surplus amply sufficient to enable you to make the usual provision for Roads and other Public Works. At the same time, taking into consideration the increasing wants of the Province, with a Revenue to a certain extent limited, I would earnestly recommend you to adopt and enforce a rigid system of economy, and, as far as practicable, retrenchment, in every branch of the Public Service. With this view, measures will be