



Royal Gazette Extra.

Vol. 28]

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1870.

[Page 48

By Authority.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

FREDERICTON, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1870.

THIS being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at Three o'clock His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor 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,

" We have abundant cause to be thankful to a beneficent Providence for the Harvest of the past year, which I am induced to believe was greater than that of any previous year in the history of the Province. The Agricultural interest, whose annual value is beyond that of all the other productive industries of the Province, is rapidly extending; and under skilful management will yet more and more establish its claim as the first and most indispensable of all industrial pursuits.

" The visit of His Royal Highness Prince Arthur, during the past year, has afforded us another occasion for a most hearty manifestation of loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, in the person of one of her Sons; and it gives me great pleasure to inform you that His Royal Highness was deeply impressed with the cordial greetings of the inhabitants in every part of the Province through which he passed.

" A desire to see as much as possible of the Dominion over which he presides, induced His Excellency the Governor General to visit the Maritime Provinces during the past Summer; and while His Excellency was delighted with the indications of Provincial growth and prosperity which everywhere presented themselves, he was much gratified by the loyal reception accorded to him.

" Although the foreign market for the sale of our Ships, unhappily continues depressed, by reason of the increasing facilities for the construction of iron ships, it is gratifying to observe that the capital and enterprise of our people are being largely directed towards the development of our Mercantile Marine, and towards the extension of Manufactures.

" You will be gratified to learn that large tracts of Land have been surveyed under the Settlement Act, and in some localities Roads are being opened, and the lots quickly taken up by *bona fide* settlers.

" The portions of Railway lines recently opened are already producing most favourable results, both as regards the Agricultural and Commercial Interests of the country.

" The negotiations with the Federal Government respecting Eastern Extension, have resulted in our obtaining a large remission from the Dominion, of subsidy chargeable against the Provincial Revenue; and negotiations are still pending for the adjustment of further claims.