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**By Authority.**

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1888.

THIS being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at three o'clock His Honor the Honorable SIR SAMUEL LEONARD TILLEY, C.B., K.C.M.G., Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, came to the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly, who being come, His Honor 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,*

“ It is my pleasing duty to welcome you on again assembling for your Legislative duties, and to congratulate you on the general contentment, and the many evidences of increased business prosperity throughout the Country.

“ I have great pleasure in informing you that the unsettled Claim of this Province growing out of the Eastern Extension matter, has, during the recess, been pressed vigorously upon the attention of the Dominion Government, and that I have no doubt Parliament will be asked to make an appropriation in settlement thereof at the present Session.

“ My Government has felt it to be its duty to claim a preference as a Crown Debt for the balance of Provincial funds on deposit in the Maritime Bank at the time of its suspension. As the Liquidators of the Bank have been advised that this claim for a preference is not sustainable, I have approved of a special case being stated for the opinion of the Courts upon the question.

“ On the invitation of the Government of the sister Province of Quebec, delegates from my Government attended a Conference at the City of Quebec, in October last, of gentlemen representing the Executives of five of the Provinces of Canada to consult upon questions of Inter-Provincial interest.

“ The Resolutions unanimously adopted at the Conference will be communicated to you, and I invite your favorable consideration to such Bills as it may be found necessary to lay before you in furtherance of the conclusions at which the Conference arrived.

“ I have caused Plans and Specifications to be carefully prepared with a view to the erection of the Departmental Building mentioned at the opening of your last Session, and I trust these Plans will be found on inspection to provide for the Departmental Offices and Records at a moderate cost, and with the needed security and accommodation.

“ With a view to stimulating a branch of Agricultural industry, for which this Province is exceptionally well adapted, I shall ask you to make a Grant for a considerable importation of Sheep.

“ From the readiness with which you have always responded to calls in aid of the farming interest, I look with confidence for a liberal appropriation in respect of this and other proposals of a like character which shall be submitted to you.