

" The important Act passed at the last Session of the Legislature, in amendment of the Electoral law, having gone into operation, the experience of its working during the recent elections has suggested some minor changes, to which I shall invite your favourable consideration.

" Public attention has been recently attracted to the question of the Mineral capabilities of the Province, by the reported discovery of considerable deposits of silver and other valuable ores in several sections of the Province. Proposals with a view to attracting capital and stimulating enterprise in this direction will be submitted for your approval.

" Complaints respecting the unsafe and unhealthy condition of the County Gaols in several Counties of the Province have been laid before me, and I have regretted to learn that in one case His Excellency the Governor General has felt it his duty to order the discharge of a prisoner, owing to the unhealthy condition of the building in which he was confined. You will be asked to adopt such measures as shall make it obligatory upon all Municipalities to provide secure and proper gaol accommodation in their respective Counties.

" It has recently become apparent that the people of New Brunswick are being outstripped by some of the sister Provinces in respect to the relative extent and quality of its dairy products. More interest and attention, it is thought, might with advantage be directed to this industry, and in the hope of promoting, in some degree, this important object, a measure will be laid before you, to which I invite your favourable consideration.

" My Government has it in contemplation to discontinue the maintenance of the Provincial Stock Farm at the expiration of the current year. I hope this proposal may commend itself to your approval.

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

" It affords me much satisfaction to be able to congratulate you upon a substantial increase in the revenue for the past year, which has enabled the Department of Public Works to meet some very urgent demands for the construction of additional Bridges of a permanent character.

" I have directed the Accounts of the Income and Expenditure for the past year, as well as a Statement of the Receipts and Payments of the current year up to the opening of the present Session, to be laid before you.

" Estimates of the probable Income and Expenditure for the current year will be submitted to you, and I think you will find that the Estimates of Expenditure have been prepared with a due regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

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

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

" In your deliberations upon the various subjects which may engage your attention I have the fullest confidence that you will display the utmost loyalty and zeal in the public service, and I trust that under the Divine guidance your labors may materially advance the welfare of our people and strengthen their attachment to the institutions under which we live."

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