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By Authority.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, March 12, 1891.

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., LL. D., 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,

"I beg to extend to you my cordial greetings upon your again assembling for the performance of your important functions, and trust that the delay in convening the Legislature on this occasion, which circumstances have rendered unavoidable, will not be found to occasion you any serious personal inconvenience.

"I am happy to say, that His Excellency the Governor General was enabled to make the visit to the Maritime Provinces during recess, which I had some reason to think he had in contemplation when I met you at the opening of last Session. The reception accorded His Excellency in all parts of the Province to which his visit extended, was of the heartiest and most cordial character, and was, I am assured, personally most gratifying to His Excellency.

"The selection on behalf of the Dominion Government of a number of representative and prominent farmers from different sections of the United Kingdom, who should visit Canada and report for the information of the English people upon its Agricultural condition, capabilities and resources, led to an extended tour by these gentlemen through a large portion of the Dominion. My Government deeming it undesirable that the delegates should be allowed to return to the Mother Country without some of their number having paid a visit to New Brunswick, were able, although somewhat late in the season, to prevail upon several of the party to spend a few days in the Province, and I have every reason to believe that those who did so were greatly impressed with the agricultural capabilities of New Brunswick, and will speak most favourably of the Province in this regard in their forthcoming Report.

"The conditions, which it is believed unhappily exist in agricultural communities in some portions of Great Britain, are leading to a considerable emigration of the farming classes from that country, and my Government, in the hope of diverting a portion of this emigration to our own Province, has commissioned a competent gentleman, himself a practical English farmer, who has enjoyed the advantage of a few years' residence in New Brunswick, to revisit England and lay before the people the inducements our Province offers as a farming country. I am not without strong hopes that the result will be more than commensurate with the moderate outlay which the experiment has necessitated, and shall look to you with confidence to sanction the action of my Government in the step thus taken.

"Advantage has been taken of the Exhibition held at Kingston, Jamaica, which opened about the first of January last, to make a display of the wood products of the Province, and an honorary Commissioner representing New Brunswick attended the Exhibition, furnished with useful infor-