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By Authority.

ASSEMBLY CHAMBER,

FREDERICTON, THURSDAY, January 31, 1895.

THIS being the day appointed by Proclamation for the meeting of the Legislature, at three o'clock His Honor the Honorable JOHN JAMES FRASER, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, came to the Assembly Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, was pleased to open the Session with the following

S P E E C H :

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

"The re-arrangement of the fiscal period which you effected at the last Session of the Legislature has enabled me to summon you for the despatch of business at an earlier and, I trust, a more convenient season than has recently been customary; and in meeting you upon the resumption of your parliamentary duties, I do so in the fullest confidence that you will enter upon the performance of those duties with a single eye to the public welfare.

"As had been anticipated when I took my leave of you nine months since, their Excellencies, the Governor General and his Countess, were enabled during the summer to pay a short visit to this Province. The reception everywhere accorded Their Excellencies was, I believe, most gratifying to the distinguished visitors, and I am well assured that they carried away with them the hearty goodwill of all who had the pleasure of meeting them during their brief sojourn in New Brunswick.

"It is fitting I should allude to the untimely death of the late Premier of Canada, Sir John Thompson, cutting off, as it did, a promising career and occurring under circumstances of striking and tragic interest. The almost royal distinction with which the Imperial Government honored the remains of the deceased Premier, deeply touched the hearts of the people of the Dominion and caused Canadians to realize, perhaps more clearly than they ever realized before, the closeness of the tie which binds us to the Mother Land.

"The liberal provision which the Legislature has made in the past few years for the encouragement of the Dairy interests of the Province, and the cordial co-operation of the Dominion authorities with my Government in this important work, have produced very gratifying results. Three years only have elapsed since the Province was obliged to depend very largely upon outside production for its cheese supply. So rapid has been the growth of this industry in New Brunswick, that last year not only was the home demand fully supplied by the home production, but there remained a considerable surplus for export, which found ready sale in markets abroad. The capabilities of New Brunswick as a Dairying country having been thus completely demonstrated, we may reasonably hope for a more rapid and pronounced development in this direction in the future than in the past. My Government will invite you to consider whether, in addition to the continuance of fiscal aid to this industry upon lines similar to those which have hitherto obtained, it may not be well to invest the Executive Government with the necessary power to enable it to co-operate with the other Provinces of Canada in devising a system of inspection of Dairy products intended for export, with a view to maintaining for these products in European markets their present high standard of excellence.