

Religious Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN N. B., FEB. 18, 1859.

The Christian Ministry.

ARTICLE III.

Our second article on the Christian Ministry related to the necessity of mental qualifications and intelligence, in order to efficiency in the work of preaching the Gospel. But even these, with the most elevated piety, are not all that is wanted to give power and usefulness to the Pulpit. There is a special preparation necessary for nearly or quite every effort to preach the Word. The great Apostle of the Gentiles instructed Timothy to "give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine, to meditation upon these things, give thyself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appear to all. Hold fast the form of sound words, and the things which thou hast heard of me, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." Some persons object to any special preparation being made to preach! Even a knowledge of the subject to be presented previous to the preacher entering the pulpit, can hardly be endured. Any previous selection of a text, or arrangement of the subject to be presented, is considered as a great disregard to the government of the Spirit of God, and a direct leaning to lifeless formalism. We are ready to admit that special preparation for the pulpit may often result in mere intellectual efforts, without vigor or life. But it is also true, that a neglect of preparation often results in the utterance of nonsense, and is as utterly destitute of true spirituality as the former, besides being disgusting to the intelligent and educated. We by no means would encourage the habit of preaching from notes; not, however, because we believe preparation and arrangement previous to preaching detrimental to true spirituality; but because we think every minister should have his subject sufficiently studied, and so well impressed upon his memory as to render notes unnecessary. To select subjects without reference to their applicability to the people for whom they are intended, is a sad mistake; but one which in our opinion is not more likely to be made, in prayerful meditation in the study, than in the hurry and anxiety of getting a text after entering the pulpit. We see no reason for limiting the Spirit in His guidance of our minds to subjects applicable to the necessities of the people, to the very hour when we must use these subjects; neither do the Scriptures teach this idea. If we are brought before Kings and rulers for the name sake of Christ, we should take no thought beforehand what we should say, for the Holy Ghost will teach us in the same hour what we ought to say; but this rule was not intended to apply to the preaching of the Gospel. The most effective speakers on all other subjects besides religion, are those who combine with ability to speak, and a general knowledge of their subject, the most thorough preparation, by close thought and arrangement; and it is well known that men of ordinary talents for public speaking, by extra study and preparation, have succeeded and become efficient and useful speakers on both moral and religious subjects.

In nothing should men be so careful of having "THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS" as in preaching the gospel. An error in this may be attended with the most terrible consequences; a misinterpretation of scripture on one single occasion may be the means of planting the seeds of error so deep in some heart that they may never be rooted out. True, some young, warmhearted, and zealous men of God, have labored successfully for a while without much preparation, beside the freshness and vigor of their early experience. But the spirituality of their minds cannot be very long maintained without recourse to the means which God has ordained for that purpose. A sameness will become apparent, and a new field of labour will become necessary in a little while. To obviate this, special preparation for the pulpit must be made. It is well known that the most useful and holy men of God who have preached the gospel in modern days were those who devoted the most time to study and preparation for the pulpit. The distinguished Edwards of New England, under whose labors the middle of the last century the "Great Awakening" commenced, in which thousands of souls including many ministers were converted to God, never preached a sermon until it was prepared and arranged with much study and prayer. Frequently also did he preach several sermons from the same text. Probably no man ever preached in America whose sermons were accompanied with more motion from the Holy One than he, or that were made more useful. And yet he almost invariably preached from notes carefully prepared. None will have the hardihood to deny the devotion and true spirituality of Baxter, author of "The Saints Everlasting Rest," and many kindred works which have been the means of blessing to thousands of souls since their author went to his reward. This eminent and godly divine says—

"It is not the want of our abilities, that makes us use notes; but it is a regard unto our work, and the good of our hearers. I use notes as much as any man, when I take pains; and as little as any man, when I am lazy, or busy, and have not leisure to prepare. It is easier unto us, to preach three sermons without notes than one with them. He is a simple preacher, that is not able to preach a day without preparation; if his strength would serve. Indeed, I would have distinction made between the reading of notes, and the using of notes. It is a pity that a minister should so read his notes, as to take away the vivacity and efficiency of his delivery; but if he so use his notes, as a lawyer does the minutes whereupon he is to plead, and carry a full quiver into the pulpit with him, from whence he may, with one cast of his eye, after the lively shooting of an arrow, fetch out the next, it might be a thousand ways advantageous."

Such is Mr. Baxter's testimony; but for ourselves we would not recommend notes; and we would earnestly urge laborious preparation; and if time for this cannot be obtained, let any other course be pursued by the preacher, which will enable him to give to his people sound, evangelical sermons, and be approved unto God.

Correspondence.—We have received for publication a report of a doctrinal discussion between Rev. Mr. Sterling and the Rev. Mr. Barnes, which is under consideration.

Arrangements for the "Intelligencer."

We have received the following letter from an esteemed brother, relative to the collection of the accounts due for the *Intelligencer* previous to August last. We regret that there seems to be a misunderstanding in the minds of many relative to us, which justice to ourselves requires we should correct. The writer of this letter informs us as follows:—

"To-day I received a note from your agent, Mr. McCready, informing me that my bill for arrears of the paper was in the hands of a magistrate for collection. I did not know that I owed a penny on the paper until then. The paper was sent me by a friend, and stopped without my order. But I can assure you, my brother, that I did not like to go to the magistrate's office and settle a bill under such circumstances; and I think if your agent acts toward all parties as he has to me, your subscribers will be less."

Now we wish to distinctly understand that with the old account for the *Intelligencer* we have no connection, nor is Mr. McCready our agent for their collection. We have been proprietors of the *Intelligencer* since the first of August last only; with the accounts of the office previous to that time we have nothing to do; they belonged to the General Conference and were sold to Mr. McCready, who is collecting them on his own account. Who these accounts are against we do not know. We did not keep the books, neither had we control of the business of the *Intelligencer*. We were employed as Editor, which duty we performed, and received a salary for it. From the General Conference we purchased in July last the future interest of the paper, independent of all arrears, and have no more to do with their collection than the writer of the above letter. We cannot be responsible for Mr. McCready's acts; we did not employ him, and have no control over him. Bills in some instances, we are informed, have been presented to parties who had previously paid—in two cases which have come to our knowledge the money was paid to us. We can only say that when subscriptions were forwarded through us to the office; they were duly paid over, and no memorandum or account of them was reserved in our possession. We wish these things to be rightly understood by the public.

Mr. McCready is authorized by us to obtain subscribers for the *Intelligencer* for the present year; this is the only connection he has with us.

THE POST OFFICE.—Some new orders relating to the closing and despatch of mails were made by our new Postmaster General, soon after his assumption of office, and which lessened the Sabbath labour in this department of public service. More recently an order was issued for closing and despatching the mail from this city Westward on Sunday. This was expected to reduce some other labour in the office here, and discontinue it altogether at St. George and St. Andrews, and partially at St. Stephens. This practice has now been discontinued and the mails westward are now despatched on week days only. We believe it is the sincere desire of Mr. Connell to abolish entirely the Sabbath labour in the department of which he is at the head. Every opportunity will be embraced to misrepresent his efforts by certain parties and papers opposed to him, but we have reason for believing that arrangements will be made soon which will preserve the Lord's day from violation throughout the whole, or nearly so, of the mail arrangements in this Province.

We observe that Mr. McPhelin ex-postmaster General has moved a resolution in the House of Assembly directing the Postmaster General to rescind his order prohibiting the delivery of letters on the Sabbath. It was seconded by Mr. Cudlip of this city.

At the time of our writing this notice, we do not know the decision of the House on this resolution; but we trust there is sufficient good sense and respect for the morals of the people among our Legislators, to negative this attempt to Romanize the Lord's Day in New Brunswick. Let our delivery on the Sabbath, which has been practiced until recently, has long enough been a scandal to the public service.

REVIVAL IN CARLETON.

We noticed in our last issue the revival interest in Carleton. Since then the work has gone on gloriously, and become quite general. Our Meeting House is crowded every evening, and a spirit of deep solemnity pervades the whole audience. There are very many anxious enquirers after the way of life and salvation. The Church has been much strengthened. Last Sabbath we baptized nine more, making an accession of fourteen members in two weeks, nine of whom are heads of families. The prospect is still good; others have been converted who will be baptized soon. The Church in Carleton was never more auspicious than at present, and we think it is destined, with proper pastoral labour, to occupy a prominent position in our denomination.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Repeated notices of the revival in Southampton, under the labours of Brother Downy, have been given in our paper. Last week, at the urgent request of Brother D., we visited him at that place, and attended a number of meetings there. Large and deeply solemn congregations nightly crowded the place of worship, a great number of whom have found the pearl of great price. The labours of our Brother D. have been greatly blessed, and the Church, which has long been in a scattered and tried condition, has received a large accession, and is in other respects greatly helped. We returned to Fredericton on Friday. A letter received from Brother Downy, written on Monday, informs us that two more were baptized on Sunday last. He is now laid by from labouring, by indisposition.

The Dumfries Case of Romanism.

Our readers will remember the Dumfries case of Romanism, published in our columns a few weeks since. The girl, Ellen Lamy, who was brutally forced away from her place of residence, soon after made her escape from those in whose custody she was placed, and succeeded in making her way back to her friends. She has not been interfered with since, and we learn that on last Sabbath she received Christian baptism, and was received into a Protestant Church! We presume she will hereafter be protected from further assaults!

Another Rum Tragedy.

Another of these heart rending tragedies, produced by excessive drink, the frequency of which seems to be on the increase, occurred on Saturday last, a few miles above Fredericton, the facts of which are as follows. The victim who was a young man named Pratt, a native, we learn, of Nova Scotia, was returning with three or four others from the lumber woods at Nackawick. They stopped at a tavern kept by Quigg at Nackawick, at which place he drank two glasses of liquor; a few miles this side, at Carson's in Dumfries, he with his companions drank again. Further down at Hoyte's they again stopped, at which place the drunk nearly a tumbler full at one draught, notwithstanding the remonstrance of Mr. Benjamin Kilburn, of Kingsclear, who was one of the party. They then proceeded on their journey until they arrived at a tavern in Kingsclear kept by Myerall. Here they all went to sleep, as they supposed on the sled. After a little they returned to awaken and induce him to enter the house; and with oaths and curses endeavoured to arouse him. Not succeeding they dragged him into the bar-room, when awful torments, he was found to be stone dead. He had died on the road, without the knowledge of his companions. What an awful way to die! What a death requiem were the oaths of his besotted and drunken companions! What more arguments do we require against this body and soul destroying traffic whose victims are daily increasing! Why should men be licensed to commit the crime of murder under the sanction of law, upon poor, weak, misguided victims whose appetites they have fed until they are no longer able to control them! Every case of this kind is a new and unanswerable argument for a PROHIBITORY LAW.

The Genesee Farmer.

The February number of this popular agricultural journal is received. We desire again to call the attention of our agricultural and horticultural friends to the merits of the *Genesee Farmer*. No similar journal affords so much matter at so cheap a rate. Each number contains thirty-two pages, crammed to overflowing with just such information as farmers and fruit-growers need. It is handsomely got up, and well illustrated with new and beautiful engravings of animals, machines, implements, fruits, trees, shrubs, flowers, &c.

In the Agricultural Department, this month, we find four valuable articles written expressly for the *Genesee Farmer*. The Horticultural Department occupies fourteen pages, and is unusually interesting and beautifully illustrated. In the Ladies' Department we have twenty-one original domestic receipts, contributed to the *Farmer* by experienced housekeepers. The publisher of the *Farmer* offers a twenty-five cent book for a dozen original domestic receipts deemed worthy of publication, and in this way is able each month to publish a very choice selection. Those receipts alone are worth the cost of the paper. The monthly review of the principal markets in the United States, Canada, and England, is a new feature, and will make the *Farmer* still more useful and popular. We observe that the *Farmer* prognosticates a higher price for wheat.

We advise all our readers interested in the cultivation of the soil, to subscribe at once for the *Genesee Farmer*. Terms fifty cents a year, in advance; five copies for two dollars; eight copies for three dollars, with a copy of the *Rural Annual and Horticultural Directory*, sent prepaid by mail to the person getting up the club. The publisher will send a number of the paper free, for examination, to all applicants. Address JOSEPH HARRIS, Publisher and Proprietor, Rochester, N. Y.

Letter from the Rev. A. Taylor.

Grand Manan—Tea Soiree—Revised.

DEAR BRETHREN,—On last New Year's eve the Ladies of Northern Head, Grand Manan, held a Tea Soiree in the new Meeting-house to raise funds to aid in finishing the building. The evening was very unpropitious; there being a violent storm that afternoon, nevertheless a large company assembled at the appointed time. The tables were well provided with every delicacy suitable for such an occasion, and your readers may rest assured that ample justice was done to this part of the entertainment. The Northern Head Choir was in attendance; accompanied with the Melodian and Bass Viol; which performed a number of pieces of music in their own peculiar style of excellence, and which called forth the approbation of the entire company. Altogether three little girls appeared on the platform, whose ages were respectively 10, 11, and 13 years, and sang some beautiful airs, so appropriate to the occasion, and so peculiarly adapted to them as children, that none could help giving in that rapturous applause that greeted them when their performance was ended. Thus pleasantly the evening passed, and all retired to their homes thankful for the privilege of spending the time so delightfully, and inwardly praising the Ladies for the skill with which they got up an entertainment so simple, so pure, and so delightfully pleasant. The amount realized from the proceeds of the evening was TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS.

The Lord has recently renewed His work on this part of the Island. The Church has been greatly revived and strengthened, wanderers have been reclaimed and brought home again, and quite a number of sinners have been converted to God. I have recently baptized 8 happy converts, and it is expected that a number of others will go forward soon. The work seems to be increasing, and we hope to see many more brought to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. We hope our brethren will pray for us, we need their prayers very much.

Yours in Christian love,

A. TAYLOR.

Grand Manan, Feb. 10, 1859.

For the Religious Intelligencer.

Temperance.

There appears to be a revival of the Temperance Reform throughout the whole Province; by which it is to be hoped much good will be accomplished. "Dr. Jewett," an old, and able advocate of this reform, made a stay of several

weeks in our city, during which he delivered a number of lectures, so full of facts, that I believe they have taken effect upon the hearts of many. If all our ministers would only take this question to heart, and advocate it in their pulpits, what a vast amount of happiness would take the place of poverty and shame!

I find that the youth of our city are not idle; but are united as Cadets of Temperance, taking an active part in this work of rescuing the rising generation from that snare which the devil has prepared for them, baited with the wine cup; and also of thrusting home to the heart of the inebriate the necessity of reforming ere he is overtaken by death—death eternal.

To those youths I would speak words of encouragement. United as you are in the bonds of truth, virtue, and Temperance, go forward with firmness, put forth all your energies on behalf of this glorious reform—fight on for truth, virtue, and temperance—they are principles which the Bible teach. Bring all your influence to bear against the Rum Traffic, that you may drive it from the land, and sin and wretchedness from the homes of our fellow creatures. Look around you, and see what numbers are day after day falling victims to this monster. Listen to the cries of suffering humanity. See how many of New Brunswick's fairest sons have been laid low by this foul monster; and then think you is it not time that you should raise your voices against so deadly an evil. Temperance has always been a curse to society, and will continue to be so as long as professors of religion support it. God demands that every man should devote his time, and his talents to promote the virtue, and happiness of the human race; and one of the best ways by which he can accomplish this end, is by being united in sacred friendship, to redeem the drunkard, and rescue those who are on the broad road to ruin.

GEORGE LUMAN.

Modern Spiritualism.

Within the last few months, the subject of spiritualism—we do not say the system, for it has not attained and never deserved the distinction of being called a system—has received several blows from which any scheme, not deeply entrenched in the credulity of human nature, could never be expected to recover. Several of the most prominent teachers of spiritualism have renounced their pretended faith in it, have declared their convictions that its tendencies are demoralizing, and facts almost numberless have been deduced and published to the world, of the corrupting influences brought to bear by it on those who have been brought within its power.

The Boston Courier's report of the proceedings of the professed spiritualists and mediums in the presence of the Professors of Harvard University and others, has been published in a cheap pamphlet form, and is now circulated as one of the most complete and satisfactory exposures of a delusion and imposture, which has ever been made.

It seems to us that no candid and unprejudiced person can peruse this document without being convinced that the profession and the pretences of modern spiritualists are impious and their performances wicked and contemptible. If the manifestations claimed by them correspond with their pretensions, it might be just to ascribe them to infernal agencies; but on close examination and careful tests it is uniformly discovered that their pretended manifestations depend, for every success, either upon the skill of impostors, or the credulity of auditors and spectators.

However difficult it may be to reach the secret influences by which these signs and wonders are supposed to be wrought, no well balanced mind, after the revelations which have been made by the discoveries of critics, or by the confession of those who have been engaged as operators, can hesitate in withholding all faith from those concerned, until some better evidence has been presented than anything heretofore known or claimed. It is very true there are no bounds to human credulity and infirmity. We may therefore suppose that for some years to come there will be here and there communities and countries in which spiritualism will be nursed and received, but its day is over, and hereafter it will be believed in only as the legends of Romanism or tales of witchcraft.—N. Y. Obs.

A Word to Ministers and Editors on Striking.

Elisha told the King of Israel to smite upon the ground, and he smote thrice and stayed. And the man of God was wroth with him, and said; Thou shouldst have smitten five or six times; then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it." See 2 Kings 13, 18.

So in regard to the flinty hearts of sinners and worldly professors, there needs blow on blow with a sledge hammer's might. Once won't do, nor twice, nor three times, nor four, five, six. Nay, twenty, thirty, a hundred times will not suffice. You must strike, and keep striking with your might till the flinty rock quakes. Strike while you live. Some advocates for the doctrine of purity, entire devotedness to God, rouse up occasionally, preach on holiness, sanctification of soul, once or twice, then, forsooth, the subject is measurably dropped for weeks and months; nothing more definitely or pointedly is said, till the subject cools off! Beloved, will this suffice to clear your skirts? Will this occasional, haphazard, zigzag, onset against a mountain weight of indifference and opposition to this superlative grace, this pearl of pearls, make head way, bring up the church to the glorious standard of the inward life and true working order?

Ho!iness of heart, begots life, soul, action; consistent, uniform action, persevering, enduring God glorifying. To give stability of impulse in the onward course of salvation in redeeming a lost world, the first thing is to lay the foundation on which to build, sure and steadfast. And what foundation so imperishable as holiness, the assurance of faith in Christ? Why not, then, bring home these glorious truths definitely—make the subject a special business—an every day business; and cease not day nor night, till every member on the church list is awake, aroused, well posted—roused to life and action, till the blessed doctrine of entire consecration to God goes forth as the light of the morning. Then salvation rings from pole to pole, and the whole world sings, "Glory to God in the highest." D. F. N.

A NEW PAMPHLET.

MR. GEORGE W. DAY has just issued from his press, in this City, a neat Pamphlet of 32 pages, containing Judge Wilnot's Speech at the Bible Meeting, and Lee ure on the Catacombs, A Christian Catholic's Reply to Bishop Connolly, and several other letters on the controversy which has recently agitated the public mind in St. John. We hope this excellent pamphlet will have a wide circulation. The excellent lecture of Judge Wilnot on the Catacombs, and the able letters of A Christian Catholic should be read by everybody. The price of the pamphlet is 7d. single, or ten for \$1.

Mr. Day wishes us to say that he regrets that by some mistake he failed to give the *Globe* credit for the letters extracted from that paper, by a "Christian Catholic."

News of the Week.

FREDERICTON CORRESPONDENCE.

FREDERICTON, 16th Feb., 1859.

MESSRS EDITORS.—Knowing that your readers generally take much interest in the passing events at Head Quarters, and particularly of the sayings and doings of the representatives of the people, who met agreeably to His Excellency's Proclamation, on Thursday, the 10th instant, for the despatch of business. The representatives of the several counties having assembled, at the usual place of meeting, about 2 o'clock His Excellency's arrival was first generally announced by the report of two or three big guns, which had been placed in front of the Province Buildings for that purpose, and more particularly by the appearance of a messenger dressed in black, wearing a sword and carrying a long black staff mounted with some brass ornaments, whom they called the "Usher of the Black Rod," and who addressing himself to the Clerk, said His Excellency requested their attendance in the Council Chamber, forthwith, which message being communicated by the Clerk, a general rush to the Council Chamber followed. In a few minutes I observed them all retiring, looking like a parcel of school boys I have seen on the first day of April, after some urchin had more egregiously deceived them; and more particularly when the Clerk informed them that His Excellency had sent them back, not to appear again before him till they had elected a Speaker. A motion was made by Mr. McLeod for adjournment, upon which there arose a question of order, the Clerk giving as his opinion that an application should be first made to His Excellency for leave to adjourn, which was followed by the usual round of patriotic speeches, deprecating the waste of time to the country, and extreme sympathy for the people who would have to pay the expense. Nothing adds more to the loss of time to the country, and expense to the people than those very "Bunkum" speeches as they are termed, seldom having for their object the expediency of public business—for so it proved in this instance, the very men opposing the adjournment in the first instance, moved and carried an adjournment afterwards without making any progress in business whatever.

On Friday members of the Assembly met at the usual hour, and after much conversation Mr. Johnson was put in nomination by Mr. Gilmore, and seconded by Mr. Tibbitts, upon which motion the House divided, yeas 17 nays 19. Daniel Hannington was then put in nomination by Mr. McLeod, seconded by Mr. Steadman, which motion was negatived, 10 yeas and 23 nays. Mr. Scovell then nominated Mr. Botsford, which was seconded by Mr. Lewis—upon this motion the yeas and nays were equal. Failing to obtain a majority, this motion was also negatived. Mr. Johnson was again put in nomination, and sustained, yeas 23, nays 11, showing a desire of our representatives to place gentlemen of the legal profession in all prominent positions of the country, thus ending the second day's proceedings.

On Saturday His Excellency again met the Members of the Assembly in the Council Chamber, and delivered his Speech, after which two or three Bills were introduced, one to repeal the "Bankrupt Law" so called; and Mr. Tibbitts introduced a Bill to amend the Act to authorize the construction of Railways in this Province. Monday being the order of the day to take into consideration the address and reply to the speech, it was taken up and passed without discussion. Mr. McLeod moved that a Committee be appointed to whom shall be referred matters relating to Railways in this Province, which was opposed chiefly by those in opposition to the present Government, evidently desiring to have the control of such Committee confined to members of certain political views. Yesterday the Contingent Committee made a report to the House which was in substance that £200 be appropriated to reporters £140 to be divided between them all, some 6 or 7 now present, and the remaining £60 to be divided at the end of the session by the Committee among those who should most merit it, evidently held out as a Premium to do full justice to the Contingent Committee—also that no more than three engrossing Clerks be allowed, and that the Clerks keep a particular account of all stationery of whatever description required for their department, and that each member should take whatever he may require with the view of having such several amounts published at the end of the session, and that 2000 of the daily Journals be published for distribution after a long discussion this report was adopted by the House.

To-day Mr. Gray gave notice of an address to His Excellency, asking information, statement and plans connected with the European and North American Railway. This address is very lengthy, comprising 33 sections, asking all sorts of questions, I would send you the address entire but it is quite too lengthy for your columns. The vacancy occasioned in the Legislative Council by the death of Arch-deacon Coster, has been supplied by the appointment of Dr. Brooks, Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland in this city, it is said that the Rev. Mr. Medley, son of the Episcopal Bishop, was also an applicant.

Yours,

Q.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor was pleased to open the Session of the Legislature with the following Speech:

Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;
Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

"The period of the year has now arrived when it has been usual to summon you for the performance of your Legislative duties; and I feel satisfaction in recurring to you for your advice and assistance.

"When last I met you, I ventured to express a hope that the Mutiny in India, might, by the blessing of God, be the means of strengthening British authority in that part of the Empire. We may now rejoice in the confident belief that this hope will be speedily realized, and you will, I know, heartily join me in the expression of fervent gratitude for the victories with which it has pleased Providence to bless Her Majesty's Arms.

"It is, I regret to say, impossible to refer to the past year as one of commercial prosperity; the demand for our Staple Exports has not as yet recovered from the effects of the disasters which recently disturbed the trade of the world; but it is gratifying to observe some symptoms of improvement in our commercial prospects, and I trust that ere long, renewed prosperity will reward the combined prudence and energy of our Merchants.

"I congratulate you on the abundance of the Crop of the past season; and the general success which has attended those who have applied their capital and industry to the development of our Fisheries, affords to us another subject for sincere congratulation and thankfulness.

"The progress of the Railway works now in course of construction has been uninterrupted. Reports and other documents explanatory of the state of these works, and of the Expenditure connected therewith, will be laid before you.

"In connection with this subject, I congratulate you on the position which our Debtors have attained among Securities of a similar description. You will have observed with satisfaction the proof of the reliance which is placed on the pledged faith of the province, in some increasing estimation in which they are held. I cannot but think that this gratifying circumstance, which affords unquestionable increase and degree at least, to be attributed to the fact that during the recent crisis, it was well known among the leading Capitalists of the Mother Country that we were determined, at all sacrifices, faithfully to fulfil our engagements both here and elsewhere, and that every possible precaution had been taken to enable the Government to do so, even if the pressure had been greater than it was.

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

"The Accounts of the Receipts and Expenditure of the past year will be laid before you; and I have given directions that the Estimates for the current year shall be submitted to you.

"You will observe with regret, that owing to the continued depression of our Trade, the Revenue of the past year fell short of the estimated amount; but this circumstance has not prevented the prompt payment of all demands upon the Treasury.

"The liabilities which we have incurred and are incurring for the construction of extensive Public Works, afford an additional reason for the exercise of caution in our expenditure. I am confident that you will combine a wise economy with an ample provision for the requirements of the Public Service.

"The Act under which the existing Customs Duties are levied will shortly expire, and this subject will necessarily receive your early consideration.

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

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

"Your Joint Address to Her Majesty on the subject of an Inter-Colonial Line of Railway, was transmitted by me to the Secretary of State for presentation to Her Majesty.

"In the course of the Autumn, the Governor General of Canada informed me that he had directed certain Members of His Council to proceed to England, to urge upon Her Majesty's Government the consideration of this subject; and that the Gentlemen to whom this mission had been committed, were on the eve of their departure for England. I was also informed that a similar step had been taken by the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia; and directed two Members of my Council to proceed to England without delay, to co-operate with the Gentlemen deputed by the Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia. The Correspondence and Documents connected with this subject, will be laid before you.

"I recommend you to consider whether measures may not be adopted whereby the existing Agricultural Societies throughout the Province, may be rendered more effective for the attainment of the important object for which they have been established, and at the same time afford an additional stimulus to the application of capital and skill to the culture of the soil.

"I have received from the Superintendent of Fisheries in Canada certain Documents explanatory of the course recently adopted by the Government and Legislature of that Province with respect to the Fisheries in the Saint Lawrence and the neighbouring Rivers. Copies of these Documents will be laid before you.

"You will concur with me in the opinion, that it is desirable to devise means for rendering the resources of the Province more widely known among intending Emigrants from the Mother Country and elsewhere.

"Upon these and on all other matters to which your attention may be directed, I fervently pray that the blessing of Providence may prosper your counsels, and guide your deliberations for the promotion of the welfare and happiness of the People."

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"When last I met you, I ventured to express a hope that the Mutiny in India, might, by the blessing of God, be the means of strengthening British authority in that part of the Empire. We may now rejoice in the confident belief that this hope will be speedily realized, and you will, I know, heartily join me in the expression of fervent gratitude for the victories with which it has pleased Providence to bless Her Majesty's Arms.

"It is, I regret to say, impossible to refer to the past year as one of commercial prosperity; the demand for our Staple Exports has not as yet recovered from the effects of the disasters which recently disturbed the trade of the world; but it is gratifying to observe some symptoms of improvement in our commercial prospects, and I trust that ere long, renewed prosperity will reward the combined prudence and energy of our Merchants.

"I congratulate you on the abundance of the Crop of the past season; and the general success which has attended those who have applied their capital and industry to the development of our Fisheries, affords to us another subject for sincere congratulation and thankfulness.

"The progress of the Railway works now in course of construction has been uninterrupted. Reports and other documents explanatory of the state of these works, and of the Expenditure connected therewith, will be laid before you.

"In connection with this subject, I congratulate you on the position which our Debtors have attained among Securities of a similar description. You will have observed with satisfaction the proof of the reliance which is placed on the pledged faith of the province, in some increasing estimation in which they are held. I cannot but think that this gratifying circumstance, which affords unquestionable increase and degree at least, to be attributed to the fact that during the recent crisis, it was well known among the leading Capitalists of the Mother Country that we were determined, at all sacrifices, faithfully to fulfil our engagements both here and elsewhere, and that every possible precaution had been taken to enable the Government to do so, even if the pressure had been greater than it was.

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

"The Accounts of the Receipts and Expenditure of the past year will be laid before you; and I have given directions that the Estimates for the current year shall be submitted to you.

"You will observe with regret, that owing to the continued depression of our Trade, the Revenue of the past year fell short of the estimated amount; but this circumstance has not prevented the prompt payment of all demands upon the Treasury.

"The liabilities which we have incurred and are incurring for the construction of extensive Public Works, afford an additional reason for the exercise of caution in our expenditure. I am confident that you will combine a wise economy with an ample provision for the requirements of the Public Service.

"The Act under which the existing Customs Duties are levied will shortly expire, and this subject will necessarily receive your early consideration.

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

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

"Your Joint Address to Her Majesty on the subject of an Inter-Colonial Line of Railway, was transmitted by me to the Secretary of State for presentation to Her Majesty.

"In the course of the Autumn, the Governor General of Canada informed me that he had directed certain Members of His Council to proceed to England, to urge upon Her Majesty's Government the consideration of this subject; and that the Gentlemen to whom this mission had been committed, were on the eve of their departure for England. I was also informed that a similar step had been taken by the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia; and directed two Members of my Council to proceed to England without delay, to co-operate with the Gentlemen deputed by the Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia. The Correspondence and Documents connected with this subject, will be laid before you.

"I recommend you to consider whether measures may not be adopted whereby the existing Agricultural Societies throughout the Province, may be rendered more effective for the attainment of the important object for which they have been established, and at the same time afford an additional stimulus to the application of capital and skill to the culture of the soil.

"I have received from the Superintendent of Fisheries in Canada certain Documents explanatory of the course recently adopted by the Government and Legislature of that Province with respect to the Fisheries in the Saint Lawrence and the neighbouring Rivers. Copies of these Documents will be laid before you.

"You will concur with me in the opinion, that it is desirable to devise means for rendering the resources of the Province more widely known among intending Emigrants from the Mother Country and elsewhere.

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