

SESSION, 1865.

Meeting of the Legislature.

ON Tuesday, February 28th, His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Dundas, came down to the Council Chamber at 3 o'clock, when he was pleased to open the Third Session of the Twenty-second General Assembly with the following

SPEECH:

In compliance with the Resolution, which you passed last Session, I appointed Delegates to confer with Delegates appointed by the Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, for the purpose of discussing the expediency of a Legislative Union of the Maritime Provinces.

Correspondence on this subject, together with the Report of the Conference of the Delegates will be laid before you.

From these papers you will learn the origin of a second Conference, to consider the wider question of a general Union of the British North American Provinces.

On the invitation of the Governor General I nominated Delegates to proceed to Quebec to attend this second Conference.

In appointing Delegates, I deemed it expedient, on both occasions, to select them from each of the political parties in the Legislature.

Copies of the Resolutions adopted at the Quebec Conference will be submitted to you.

Despatches from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, on this important subject will also be laid before you.

From this correspondence you will perceive that Her Majesty's Government have given to these Resolutions their most deliberate consideration, and have expressed their general approval of the proceedings of the Conference.

For this, the most momentous question ever submitted to you, I ask your earnest consideration.