

Mr. ANNAND laid on the table instructions relative to the division of road moneys for the County of Halifax, for the information of the Government.

EXPLANATION.

Mr. ANNAND—The hon. Provincial Secretary, on a former day, made a special allusion to myself in respect to an attempt I was making to find a seat in the New Dominion. I may say to the hon. gentleman that so far as I am concerned I have not authorized any one to make such an offer, as it has been stated, has been made. I may say further that overtures have been made to me from several counties, but to all I have given invariably a denial,—only under very peculiar circumstances would I offer for a seat in either parliament. I am very much like the soldier at Inkerman, I am going into a soldier's battle, and I am willing to assist anybody but myself. I therefore may say explicitly that the statement in respect to the County of Queens was altogether unauthorized.

Hon. PROV. SECY.—Perhaps I should not have made the remark I did. I had, however, letters shewn me by the members who represent Queens stating the fact that I mentioned, that overtures had been made to certain electors in the interest of the hon. gentleman. I must say that I envy somewhat the position which the hon. member proposes to occupy. Those who engage in political life do so at a great personal sacrifice. So far as politicians are concerned, we who are laymen have not the goal ahead of them that members of the Bar have. When they enter into these political struggles, they have before them a prospect of a time when they can leave public life and serve their country in an influential position. There is, however, no position more honorable or more important than that of a public servant. The public business must be done by some one ready to give up a considerable portion of his time for the sake of his country. In doing so, however, he must expect to sacrifice his personal comfort and private interest to no inconsiderable degree. There are many gentlemen in this Legislature who could have acquired any reasonable amount of wealth—who could have enjoyed the greatest personal luxury and comfort, but they have forgone all that in order to give their services to their country. As this is the last occasion on which I shall be able to make any remarks on the floor of this Legislature, I must say I feel a great deal is due not only to the kindness and courtesy of gentlemen on this side who have sustained me throughout my public career, but also to the courtesy and kindness of those who discharge the important duties of an Opposition in the House since I have had the honor of a seat on the Government benches. I can say further that there is nothing that I regret more at the close of my career in this Legislature, than at any time, in the heat of debate on public matters, I should have forgotten what was due to the personal feelings of gentlemen to whom I was opposed, and should have used expressions which, in my calm and reflecting moments it would have pained me excessively to have uttered. I trust that the good feeling which has characterized this Legislature—and I have never seen a Session in which there was such

a large amount of personal good feeling and less political asperity exhibited—will continue to animate gentlemen when we separate, and that all will leave animated by the most kindly sentiments for the prosperity of each other

MISCELLANEOUS.

On motion of the Hon. Financial Secretary, seconded by Mr. Annand, each of the Clerks was voted an additional hundred dollars for their services during the Session, the number of bills passed having been unusually large.

Hon. Mr. MACFARLANE reported from a special committee to whom was referred the petition of Mr. J. Campbell, claiming to be the first discoverer of gold, that it had been found impossible to examine into the subject at the present session.

It was suggested that the Commissioner of Mines should inquire into the subject during the recess, so as to be able to give the next House the necessary information.

At three o'clock His Excellency came down and prologued the House with the following Speech:—

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

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

It affords me much pleasure to release you from further attendance during the present Session, which will doubtless be the last of the existing Parliament.

The numerous and valuable measures which you have passed will, I doubt not, largely contribute to the prosperity of the Province.

Under the operation of the laws effecting Constitutional changes in the Local Government and Parliament of Nova Scotia, the business of the country will, I believe, be efficiently conducted at a large saving of public expenditure.

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

I thank you for the supplies voted for the public service.

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

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

I cannot close this Session without expressing the deep gratification with which I have witnessed the action of both Branches of the Legislature on the question of Union of the two Canadas, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, under one Government and Parliament, as I firmly believe that your adoption of that measure will not only greatly increase the general prosperity of British America, and elevate all these Provinces in the scale of Nations, but that the Union was imperatively demanded, in order to give stability to the Institutions you enjoy, and permanent security to this portion of Her Majesty's dominions as an integral portion of the Empire.

In the sincere hope that Almighty God will bless and prosper you all, and that the loyal people of this my native Province may be happy and prosperous, I now close this Session of the Legislature.