

the manner in which His Excellency has brought this great matter before us. We have the freest scope given us for the consideration of this question, and it is to be earnestly hoped that His Excellency will realize the assurance which he expresses. He feels "That we will not treat in a narrow spirit a question so broad, that in reality it covers the ground of all parties and all interests so completely, as to preclude it from being made the measure of one Government or of one party."

The next subject which is referred to in the speech, is that of internal defence. It will be gratifying to the country to hear that His Excellency appreciates the prompt manner in which nearly fifty thousand of our people turned out for inspection and drill. We must all believe it is necessary we should aid in making them more efficient. Arms and accoutrements are necessary, and it is to be hoped will be amply supplied for the protection of our homes and country.

It is to be regretted that the neighbouring States have taken steps to abrogate the Reciprocity Treaty which has conferred so many privileges, and been profitable alike to all. It is to be hoped that some means may be devised to prevent the annulling of the Treaty. Yet, should the Treaty terminate, it will behove the Government and ourselves to guard and protect well those most important branches of the products and resources of our country, which were so summarily disposed of by that Treaty regulation. Our Fisheries, in particular, which tend so much to the prosperity of our Province.

We must feel it a matter of no ordinary importance that the natural resources of this Province should be better understood abroad. No better and more economical way of effecting this at present appears to me than that brought to our notice in the speech of His Excellency, by being properly represented at the Intercolonial Exhibition to be held in Dublin this year. We all as Nova Scotians must feel some pride at the notice taken of our productions at the Great Exhibition in London. The co-operation expected from us towards advancing this great undertaking, will, no doubt, be cheerfully given.

Every member, no doubt, has been impressed with the conviction gained from the short operation of the school bill, that some modification is required to render it more available and better adapted to the wants and wishes of the people. All surely will give their best aid to a subject so important to the interests and well being of the great body of the people.

Scarcely any appeal is necessary to our sympathy for those who unfortunately need the care of the Asylum. More room unfortunately is required for the safety and comfort of the patients.

He (Mr. K.) thought he could do nothing better in moving the answer to the address, than to give them a comparative statement of the increase of the Revenue during the last year. They and the country were pleased that, at the last Session of this House, they had a very large Revenue to meet the requirements of our people; and very large grants were given to the roads of the country, and other public works. The Government have met all the demands upon the Treasury for the year just ended, and leave a balance in Treasury to go for the benefit of the country of \$225,150.

Increase of Revenue of 1864 over 1863 :

Comparative Statement.

Railway: Increase of passengers.....	13,301	
Increase in value.....		\$19,122
Exports		526,328
Imports.....		2,403,251
Excise, Customs, and Light Duty.....		145,778
Increase for Crown Lands.....		19,000
Gold 6,020 oz. =		106,000
Coal large increase.		

Balance in Treasury at end of Financial year..... \$225,150

I feel very gratified indeed, Mr. Speaker, to be able to give this statement of our prosperity to the House and the country; showing, as I think it does, an unprecedented state of prosperity in every source of Provincial Income. For all these and many other blessings, we should recognize the Giver of all good. I shall now read the following

ADDRESS.

May it please Your Excellency,—

We, the Representatives of the people of Nova Scotia, thank your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open this Session.

We beg to congratulate your Excellency upon your assumption of the Government of this Province, and we have no doubt that the most agreeable relations will be established between your Excellency and the Members of the Legislature.

The bountiful harvest we have enjoyed, and the increase of the trade and revenues of the country, are, indeed, auspicious, placing us in the best possible position to deal with the great questions submitted for our deliberation.

The Report from the Delegates, appointed to confer upon the Union of the Maritime Provinces, and the Resolutions of the Conference held at Quebec, proposing a Union of the different Provinces of British North America, together with the correspondence upon that subject, will obtain at our hands the deliberate and attentive consideration demanded by a question of such magnitude and importance, and fraught with consequences so momentous to us and our posterity.

The question of Internal Defence will not fail to engage our serious attention, and we will be happy to afford your Excellency every aid in our power in placing that branch of the public service in a still more effective condition.

The Public Accounts, when laid before us, will receive our careful inspection, and we will be glad to find in the estimates the evidence of such economy as is consistent with the exigencies of the public service.

The abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty would, in our opinion, operate most unfavorably upon the trade between this Province and the United States, and certainly would not improve the friendly relations which have been so largely promoted by its operation. We will be glad to receive the correspondence upon this subject.

The papers concerning the International Exhibition, to be held at Dublin, will receive the attention due to the proper representation of the products of this Province.

We will not fail to devote our most earnest efforts to aid in maturing any improvements