

ences at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly of the Province.

Mr. BOYD then moved the following Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech:

To His Excellency, the Honorable ARTHUR HAMILTON GORDON, C. M. G., Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c., &c., &c.

THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

1. We, Her Majesty's faithful Subjects, the Commons of New Brunswick, thank Your Excellency for the Speech delivered at the opening of the present Session.

2. We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that the Report of the Delegate despatched by Your Excellency to Quebec, to attend a Council summoned by the Governor General of Canada, for the purpose of affording assistance to Her Majesty's Government in the negotiation of Commercial Treaties, will be laid before us.

3. We thank Your Excellency for responding to the invitation of the Government of Canada in sending a Delegate to Washington for the purpose of endeavoring, in concert with Delegates from the Sister Provinces, and Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, to procure a temporary extension of the Reciprocity Treaty, with a view to afford time for full negotiations, having for their object the establishment of a permanent commercial arrangement with the United States upon a basis mutually beneficial; and we unite with Your Excellency in the expression of regret, that the efforts of the Delegates were not successful, and we trust that discussion on this subject, if revived, may lead to a satisfactory issue. We are pleased to learn that Your Excellency has, in concert with the Governors of the other British North American Provinces, despatched a Delegate to the West Indies and certain States of South America, with a view of opening up new channels to our Commerce. We will carefully consider any measure having for its object any revision of the Revenue Laws rendered necessary by the abrogation of the Treaty.

4. We learn with feelings of deep indignation the existence of a conspiracy, having for its avowed object the dismemberment of the British Empire. We would hope that no attack will be made on any portion of Her Majesty's North American Dominions; but in that event, we rejoice in being able to assure Your Excellency that one sentiment of loyalty animates the whole people of this Province; and its inhabitants, of every race, creed, and station, are alike ready to repel lawless aggression and to punish unprovoked hostility; and Your Excellency can confidently rely upon our cordial co-operation and support in the adoption of any measures of a precautionary character, that may be necessary to avert a calamity so serious as that of the occurrence of an armed conflict within our borders.

5. We are gratified to learn that the Act passed at the last Session of the Legislature for the better regulation of the Militia has worked satisfactorily; and we are pleased to learn that the attention of the Imperial Government and the Colonial dependencies of the British Crown continues to be directed to the organiza-

tion of this important branch of national defence, and we will be ready to afford such aid to this Institution as the financial resources of the country will justify.

6. We shall be pleased to learn the reasons which have induced Her Majesty to delay her approval of a Bill passed at the last Session of the Legislature authorizing the issue of Treasury Notes, and when communicated to us they will be carefully considered.

7. We thank Your Excellency for having complied with our request that a Delegation should be sent to England to confer with Her Majesty's Government on important subjects, and to conduct other negotiations on behalf of this Province, and we are pleased to know that the Report of the Delegates will be laid before us.

8. We learn with satisfaction that contracts have been entered into which, when executed, will secure uninterrupted Railway Communication from Halifax to the United States.

9. We join Your Excellency in the expression of regret that since the last Session the Crown has been deprived of the valuable services of two of its most distinguished public servants in this Province, and we participate in the general sorrow which is felt at the death of the late Chief Justice the Honorable Robert Parker.

10. We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that the Accounts of Revenue and Expenditure of the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, will be laid before us; and we are gratified to learn that the Revenue of the past year exceeded the Estimate, and that during the current year it has steadily improved.

11. The Correspondence which has taken place between Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor General of Canada, when laid before us will receive due attention, and the opinion expressed by Her Majesty's Government will command that respect and attention which is due to suggestions emanating from so high a source; but in any scheme for a Union of the British North American Colonies which may be proposed, it is, in the opinion of this House, absolutely essential that full protection should be afforded to the rights and interests of the people of this Province; and no measure which fails to obtain these objects should be adopted.

12. We sincerely trust that our deliberations may tend to advance the welfare of the Province and of its people, and we assure Your Excellency that they will be undertaken under a full sense of our responsibilities, and in a spirit of loyalty and attachment to our Sovereign, and we feel security and pride in our connection with that great Empire of which New Brunswick forms a part.

Hon. Mr. GILLMOR moved that—copies of the Speech of His Excellency be printed for the use of the Members of the House of Assembly. Blank filled with 200.—

Mr. BOYD moved that the House do on Monday next go into consideration of the proposed Address to His Excellency. Carried.

Mr. McMILLAN put the question to

His Honor the Speaker if any appointment of Door Keeper to the House had been made on the death of Mr. George Anderson.

SPEAKER.—He could not say, as he had not been informed.

Mr. W. J. GILBERT suggested that some member of the Government inform the House.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Government had appointed Mr. Benjamin Wheeler.

Mr. WETMORE contended the Government had no right to make the appointment without the authority of the House; and he did not see any reason why the House should submit to it. He held that if the House wished and required any person for door-keeper, it necessarily had the right of making the appointment. The Government had no right to interfere with their privileges.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL said it was necessary to have a person at the opening of the Legislature to act as door-keeper, and so the appointment was made. But if the House thought it had the right of appointment, the Government in that case had none. He did not wish to interfere with any of the privileges of the House.

Mr. WETMORE said he should, in order to test the question of right, move that the House do proceed to the appointment of a door-keeper, in the room of George Anderson, deceased.

Mr. W. J. GILBERT argued that the direct right of appointment lay in the hands of the Sergeant-at-Arms, and the House had supervision over the exercise of that right. The right of appointment of door-keeper might be a small affair, but if the House gave way, because it was small, their rights, by allowing such a precedent, might be invaded in matters of larger concern.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL said: That his present opinion was that offices connected with the House should be appointed by the House, and he would suggest that the matter so referred to the Committee of Privileges.

Mr. FISHER had no objection to let the matter go to the Committee.

Mr. WETMORE said—in making the motion—he did it not with a wish to remove the present door-keeper, but merely to ascertain and protect the privileges of the House.

Mr. KERR was of opinion that the House should retain the power of appointing all its officials. They appointed their Speaker, they appointed their Chaplain: why should they not appoint their Door-keeper? If a person received an appointment in the House, the House should have the power of making it. It was the way in Nova Scotia, and he believed, all the other Provinces, that all officials were appointed by a direct vote of the House. He then referred to the Journals, and the appointment of the second Clerk of the House by the first Clerk: and argued that a regular system should be adopted, and finally moved—

“That the question to appoint the Door-keeper and other subordinate officers of the House, be referred to a Committee of Privileges to report thereon.”

Which, after further desultory conversation, was carried, Mr. Wetmore withdrawing his motion.

Mr. WILLISTON moved that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the Contingencies of this House.