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Quebec, December 20.

THE General Assembly of the Province of Lower Canada met on the 17th Instant, when his Excellency Major-General Clarke, Lieutenant-Governor, opened the Session with a Speech, which, together with the Addresses to his Excellency from the Legislative Council and Assembly, and his Excellency's Answers thereto, are as follow :

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

OUR most gracious Sovereign, always watchful over the Happiness of His People, having taken into Consideration the Condition of His loyal Subjects of this Province, and recommended them to His Parliament for such Change in their Colonial Government as Circumstances might require and admit, the Act was passed that has made it my Duty, as it is my Pride, to meet you in General Assembly, which I have endeavoured to do at a Season least inconvenient to your private Interests.

On a Day like this, signalized by the Commencement in this Country of that Form of Government which has raised the Kingdom, to which it is subordinate, to the highest Elevation, it is impossible not to feel Emotions difficult to be expressed.

However pleasant the Task, it cannot be a necessary one on the present Occasion to display the Fitness of this System, to promote the Felicity all Governments profess to have in View, but is under none so well established as by the British, which, after having been celebrated for Ages by the first Pens of Europe, at this Moment gives Great Britain decided and enviable Distinctions of real Glory, beyond all other Nations of the World.

What I feel on the Change that brings us to this memorable Convention, I persuade myself must be a common Sentiment with all who have Capacity to discern the Magnitude of the Blessing conferred ; and

therefore I content myself with barely suggesting, that, next to the Gratitude due for it to the Almighty Arbiter of the Universe, we cannot sufficiently extol the Magnanimity and Grace of the King, the common Father of His People, and of that Parliament who have so generously co-operated for that Establishment, which is most deservedly the Subject of our general Joy.

To give an Opportunity for your loyal and grateful Acknowledgments to His Majesty is one of my Motives for calling you together ; and that Debt discharged, your Councils will, doubtless, be next employed for enacting the Laws necessary to confirm and augment the Prosperity of your Country.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

Acquainted as you are with the Condition and Desires of the People you represent, it is from your House the Public will chiefly expect such ordinary Provision as the Common Weal may require ; and I trust that if any Measures conducive to it shall necessarily be postponed for maturer Consideration at a subsequent Session, no Regulations of indispensable Utility will escape your present Attention.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

Great Britain being happily at Peace with all the World, and, I hope, without Apprehension of it's Interruption, the present Moment must be most fit and urgent for all those Arrangements, best made at a Season of Tranquillity, and falling within the Sphere of our Trust. The Conviction I feel of your Disposition to cultivate that Harmony amongst yourselves and each Branch of the Legislature, which is always essential to the public Good and private Satisfaction, makes it unnecessary for me to enlarge upon this Subject. Such Objects, as it may become my Duty to recommend to your Consideration, shall be occasionally