

arduous affairs which may the State and Defence of Our Dominion of *Canada* concern, We have thought fit to summon you to the Senate of Our said Dominion, and We do command you, the said *Adam Hope*, that all difficulties and excuses whatsoever laying aside, you be and appear for the purposes aforesaid, in the Senate of Our said Dominion, at all times whensoever and wheresoever Our Parliament may be in Our said Dominion convoked and holden : and this you are in no wise to omit.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of *Canada* to be hereunto affixed : WITNESS, Our Right Trusty and Well-Beloved Cousin and Councillor the Right Honorable Sir *Frederic Temple*, Earl of *Dufferin*, Viscount and Baron *Clandeboye*, of *Clandeboye*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron *Dufferin* and *Clandeboye* of *Ballyleidy* and *Killeleagh*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of *Ireland*, and a Baronet, Knight of Our Most Illustrious Order of *Saint Patrick*, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of *Saint Michael* and *Saint George*, and Knight Commander of Our Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General of *Canada*, and Vice-Admiral of the same. At Our Government House, in Our City of *Ottawa*, in Our Dominion of *Canada*, this Third Day of January, in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Seven, and in the Fortieth Year of Our Reign.

By Command.

R. POPE,

Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, *Canada*.

Then the Honorable Mr. *Hope* took and subscribed the oath prescribed by Law, which was administered by *Robert LeMoine*, Esquire, a Commissioner appointed for that purpose, and took his seat accordingly.

The Honorable the Speaker acquainted the House that the Clerk of the Senate had laid upon the Table the certificate of one of the Commissioners, setting forth that the Honorable *Adam Hope*, a Member of the Senate, had made and subscribed the Declaration of Qualification required by the *British North America Act*, 1867.

The House was adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the House was resumed.

His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir *Frederick Temple*, Earl of *Dufferin*, Viscount and Baron *Clandeboye* of *Clandeboye*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron *Dufferin* and *Clandeboye*, of *Ballyleidy* and *Killeleagh*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of *Ireland*, and a Baronet, Knight of the Most Illustrious Order of *Saint Patrick*, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of *Saint Michael* and *Saint George*, and Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General of *Canada*, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c., being seated in the Chair on the Throne,

The Honorable the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House — "It is His Excellency's pleasure they attend him immediately in this House,"

Who, being come with their Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to open the Session by a gracious Speech to both Houses.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I am glad to be again enabled to summon you to meet for the despatch of business, at the time which has been considered best suited to the convenience of members.

During the recess I visited the Province of *British Columbia*, and had much satisfaction in becoming acquainted with the people of that interesting part of the Dominion, and with the climate and resources of their Province.

The surveys of the *Pacific Railway* have been prosecuted with the utmost vigour and at a larger cost during the past than in any previous year, but it has not been found possible, as yet, to complete the location of the line, and I have consequently been obliged to postpone the inviting of tenders for its construction on the terms indicated by the Act of 1874.

A further correspondence on the subjects at issue between my Government and *British Columbia* will be laid before you.

During the recent suspension of the Extradition arrangements with the *United States*, I took care that the importance to *Canada* of a speedy resumption of these arrangements should be represented to Her Majesty's Government, whose attention has been further invited to the expediency of largely extending the provisions of the existing Treaty.

I am glad to be able to state that while the operation of the Treaty has been resumed, negotiations are in progress for a convention more liberal and better suited to the circumstances of the two countries.

The attention of my Government having been directed to some anomalies in the Royal Commission and Royal Instructions to the Governor-General, particularly with regard to the exercise of the Prerogative of Pardon, steps have been taken towards the amendment of these instruments.

Papers on this subject, as well as on that of the Extradition question, will be laid before you.

The great public works connected with the *St. Lawrence* navigation, and the canals required to complete the system, have been prosecuted with success during the past year.

Nearly all the works on the *Welland* and *Lachine* Canals have been placed under contract on terms favourable to the country.

The active prosecution of these works during the last three years has necessarily increased the public debt, and, though expectations are entertained that the outlay may ultimately be repaid to the country, it may be considered advisable not to press all the works, contemplated in the earlier years of Confederation, to completion at present.

I am happy to state that the Intercolonial Railway was opened for traffic, throughout its entire length, early in the summer, with as favourable results as could have been expected.

One of the immediate advantages of the completion of the Railway was the delivery and reception of the British Mails at *Halifax* after the closing of the *St. Lawrence*; and I am happy to say that up to the present time mails and passengers have been successfully carried over the line without any interruption.

The exhibition of Canadian products, manufactures, and works of art at the *United States National Exposition* at *Philadelphia*, was eminently successful, and proclaimed to the world that *Canada* has already taken a high place as a farming, manufacturing and mining country.

It is gratifying to be able to state that the expenditure was kept well within the estimate.

It is but just that I should acknowledge that the success achieved by the enterprise of our people was largely aided by the energy and wisdom of the Commissioners who had charge of the arrangements.

I have considered it advisable in the interest of the country to make arrangements for exhibiting Canadian products at the Exhibition to be held at *Sydney, New South Wales*, for which you will be asked to make provision.

Notwithstanding the loss of revenue, consequent chiefly on the diminution of our importations, the reductions effected during the current year have gone far to restore the equilibrium between income and expenditure, though great economy will be still needful to attain this object.

I regret that I am still unable to announce any progress in obtaining a settlement of the Fishery claims under the *Washington Treaty*, though my Government has made every effort to secure that result.

My Commissioners have made further Treaty arrangements with certain of the Indian tribes of the *North-West Territories*, by which their title is extinguished to a very large portion of the territories west of Treaty No. 4; and although some of the provisions of this Treaty are of a somewhat onerous and exceptional character, I have thought it, nevertheless, advisable, on the whole, to ratify it. This Treaty will be placed before you. I have made an engagement to negotiate a Treaty with the remaining tribes east of the *Rocky Mountains*.

The expenditure incurred by the Indian Treaties is undoubtedly large, but the Canadian policy is, nevertheless, the cheapest, ultimately, if we compare the results with those of other countries; and it is above all a humane, just, and Christian policy.

Notwithstanding the deplorable war waged between the Indian tribes in the *United States* territories, and the Government of that country, during the last year, no difficulty has arisen with the Canadian tribes living in the immediate vicinity of the scene of hostilities.

You will be asked to consider the expediency of making such changes in the Joint Stock Companies' Act as may obviate for the future the passage of special Acts of Parliament for the incorporation of various classes of Companies, including such corporations as seek to engage in the borrowing and lending of money, by providing for their organization by Letters Patent.

The desirability of affording additional security to policy-holders of Life Assurance Companies has engaged the attention of my Government, and I trust that the measure which will be submitted will accomplish the desired object.

A measure will be submitted to you for the purpose of extending to the navigation of the great inland waters, rights and remedies at present confined to waters within the jurisdiction of the Courts of Vice-Admiralty.

You will be asked to amend and consolidate the laws relating to Customs.

I have considered it advisable to provide for the permanent prosecution of the Geological Survey which has heretofore been carried on under temporary enactments, and to make this a distinct branch of the Civil Service; your attention will be invited to a Bill for that purpose.

Measures will be submitted also for the amendment of the Weights and Measures Act, the Excise laws, and other Acts, and also a Bill relating to Shipping.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts of the past year will be laid before you.

The Estimates of the next financial year will also be submitted, and will, I trust, be found to be framed with a view to meet the existing circumstances of the country, while at the same time, providing for carrying on the administration of affairs with efficiency.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I place full reliance on your prudence and ability, and your devotion to the

work of legislation, which, I trust, may be carried on and completed in such a way as to minister to the prosperity of the country, and the unity of the people.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The Honorable Mr. *Scott* presented to the House a Bill, intitled: "An Act relating to Railways."

The said Bill was read for the first time.

The Honorable the Speaker reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same was then read by the Clerk.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Scott*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Montgomery*, it was

Ordered, That the House do take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to-morrow.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Scott*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Montgomery*, it was

Resolved, That all Members present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the orders and customs of this House and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in this House, when and as often as they please.

The Honorable the Speaker presented to the House the Report of the Librarian on the state of the Library of Parliament.

Ordered, That it be received, and

The same was then read by the Clerk, as follows:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SENATE OF CANADA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

THE REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF PARLIAMENT, RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

It is with much satisfaction that your Librarian reports that the transfer of the Library of Parliament, to the beautiful building erected for its reception, has at length taken place. Owing to the time required for the completion of the interior fittings, it was not until the middle of the month of October that the removal commenced. The labor involved in re-arranging and classifying a collection of such magnitude, within such a short period, has been very considerable; and much still remains to be done before the work is properly completed.

At the outset, a formidable difficulty presented itself. It was found that the new Chamber was wholly inadequate, in its dimensions and apportionment, to contain the number of volumes proposed to be placed therein. Up to the time when this was ascertained, it had been taken for granted that the New Building was capable of holding, at least one hundred thousand (100,000) volumes: agreeably to the original intentions of the Government, in its construction, and in conformity with the directions given to the Superintending Architect.

So far back as the 14th May, 1859, when the erection of Parliament Buildings in Ottawa was first determined upon, the undersigned submitted to the Board of Works a Memorandum, specifying the nature and extent of the accommodation required for the Library.

This Memorandum pointed out that the Library premises should include "one large Apartment, with three tiers of light iron galleries," capable of containing 200,000 volumes. Likewise rooms, to be grouped around the Central Chamber, for the exhibition of Maps and Pictures, for offices, for private study, and for necessary uses in