

of a Provincial Legislature, also without the advice of his Council or even contrary to their advice. It must be a source of satisfaction that those anomalies were about to be removed; that the country was to enjoy responsible government in a more complete form than hitherto. It was not correct to say that those provisions in the Royal Commission and instructions were obsolete and were never enforced, because with regard to one of them a case occurred not many years ago where the power was exercised; and with respect to the other, viz., that of the disallowance of Acts of Provincial Legislatures, an opinion was obtained from the law officers of the Crown in England as late as 1873 which affirmed that the Governor General possessed that power, and was entitled, of course, to exercise it. These were not, therefore, obsolete, but practical questions, and the administration of the day was entitled to the thanks of the country for having secured the removal of anomalies which, in practice, might not have worked badly in the past, but which might in the future be the source of very great difficulty and misunderstanding. It was the part of statesmen not to be wise after the fact, but before it. The Speech referred to the opening of the Intercolonial Railway, regarding which undertaking it should be remembered that, although the road might not prove remunerative for many years, yet it was not projected or constructed as a commercial enterprise. It was entered upon as a national work, and he was prepared to support an expenditure for any reasonable time in order that the railway might be kept open, and that the Provinces which it serves might be brought closer together, not only with regard to personal intercourse, but in matters of trade and commerce. Since the road was opened, considerable trade had sprung up between the Maritime Provinces and Ontario, and the millers of Upper Canada especially had been enabled to send their produce to ports of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces which they were formerly unable to reach. It was satisfactory to find that, so far, no difficulty had been experienced in keeping the road open during

the present season, and even if trouble were encountered, he trusted a determined effort would be made to work the road and avail themselves of our winter port. Reference was made in the Speech to the display of Canadian goods at the Philadelphia Exhibition, which display astonished not only foreign nations but Canadians themselves. The results obtained would be of permanent benefit to the country. He was personally aware that in consequence of the admirable display made by the Dominion, many Ontario manufacturers had received orders from the most distant parts of the world. Those orders had been executed, and if the quality of the goods was as high as was expected, a largely increased trade would ensue. In that connection, the country would consider the Government had acted wisely in determining that Canada should be represented at the forthcoming Exhibition at Sydney. Our relations with other British Colonies should be cultivated. After the display of their own products, nothing was, perhaps, so gratifying at the Philadelphia Exhibition as the very creditable display sent by the Australian Colonies. If, as a result of the Canadian display at Sydney, a trade should spring up, it would be one of great magnitude, and prove advantageous to Canada and Australia alike. No means of removing the prevailing trade depression would prove more efficacious than the opening up of new foreign markets for our manufactures and products. A manufacturer of sewing machines in the town in which he resided (Guelph) did the greater portion of his trade with South America, where he was able successfully to compete with British and American makers. In the discussion on trade depression, the fact was often lost sight of that the country had passed through similar dull times. The present depression was not to be compared with that which followed the crisis of 1857, from which the country did not recover for five or six years. There was bound to be a return of prosperity, no matter what Government was in power, for indeed they could affect it in a very trifling degree. After complimenting the Canadian Commissioners at Philadelphia, the hon. mem-