

the Australian prisons, for a sympathetic Government, with a benevolent consideration for the state of the Fionian treasury, has taken care that this shall be done without expense to the Irish Republic. The contributions will thus be made wholly available for their legitimate purposes—to the purchase of arms for the patriot soldiers—that is, of vitriol, and nitro-glycerine, and Greek-fire—those noble instruments of the great work of national redemption."

We sincerely hope the paternal authorities will have no cause to regret what they have done, but, judging from the past, we sadly fear they will.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

For some days past there has been a steady influx of strangers at the Capital, who come to witness the opening of the Dominion Parliament, amongst whom were many whose presence has grown familiar to Ottawa, and whose names are identified with the public affairs of the Dominion. On Thursday last, the day being one of the finest in this tardy spring, the Governor General proceeded in state to open the House. The Senate chamber was graced by the fashion and a goodly share of the beauty of Ottawa. His Excellency was accompanied by a brilliant staff consisting of Lt. Gen. Sir Charles Windham, Major Gen. Bissett, Col. McNeil, V.C., Col. Irvine, Hon. Col. Monk, Major Cumberland, Col. Bernard, Capt. Hudson, A.D.C., Capt. Ogilvie, B.M., Mr. Fitz George, A.D.C., and Mr. Turville. Besides these were a number of other officers, among whom were Lord A. Russell and officers of the 1st Batt. Rifle Brigade. Col. Radcliffe, R.A., Major McLean, 13th Hussars, Lt. Col. Wily, &c.

The Ottawa Field Battery, under command of Capt. Forsyth, fired a salute from the hill in front of the Eastern Block, and the Guard of Honour was supplied by the Rifle Brigade, which, with the Band was drawn up in front of the entrance to the main building. After the Governor had taken his seat upon the throne the members of the Lower House were summoned to attend in the usual manner; when they had taken their places at the outside of the bar, His Excellency delivered the speech, as follows:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate,—

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—

I have great satisfaction in having recourse to your advice, and I rejoice to think that on this, the first occasion on which I have had the honor of addressing you, we may congratulate ourselves on the aspect of public affairs at home and abroad, on the prevalence of peace counsels amongst nations, and on indications of agreement and tranquility favourable alike to the development of foreign commerce and the prosecution of domestic industry.

The great scheme of Confederation was successfully inaugurated under the auspices of my Predecessor.

It is to me a source of pride to find my name in honorable association with the rising fortunes of the Dominion of Canada, and I shall count it a happiness, as well as a

duty, to co-operate to the utmost of my ability in furthering your efforts to strengthen the ties that bind the different provinces together, and to ensure the attachment of the people to the soil by the enactment of wise and equal laws.

Your efforts in these directions seem now more than ever, likely to be called into action, inasmuch as the terms upon which great accessions are offered to the Dominion will be submitted for your immediate consideration.

In consequence of the Duke of Buckingham and Chancos' despatch of the 8th August of last year, stating that His Grace proposed to enter into negotiations with the Hudson's Bay Company, as to the terms on which they would be willing to surrender their rights and claims in the North-West Territory, Lord Monk sent home to England two members of the Privy Council as a deputation to watch the course of the proceedings and attend to the interest of Canada.

The Conferences in London, and the correspondence on the subject have been brought to a definite issue by the proposals which, after a full review of the circumstances, Earl Granville made on the part of Her Majesty's Government for the consideration of the people of Canada and of the Hudson's Bay Company.

I have received the intelligence that the Hudson's Bay Company has, after some deliberation, decided upon accepting the terms laid down by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have directed that the report of the mission, and all the papers connected therewith, shall be duly laid before Parliament, and I commend them to your serious consideration, in view of the importance of the subject no less than in the hope that this long vexed question may be closed without further delay.

I was much gratified by communications from the Governor of Newfoundland, expressing the desire for admission into the Union which prevails amongst the inhabitants of that colony, and especially by his despatch of the 20th March last, covering copies of resolutions which had been passed by the Council and Assembly, and which set forth the conditions they consider it desirable to advance.

The documents shall be furnished at once for the information of Parliament, and I hope that before the close of the session, I may be in a position to submit the details of a provisional arrangement for your consideration.

It will be a sensible pleasure to me, as well as a subject of general congratulation, if at some early day the fine colony of Newfoundland, unrivalled as the Nursery of hardy seamen, and inexhaustible in its wealth of fisheries, becomes part of the Dominion.

In accordance with the suggestion of Her Majesty's Government, an earnest attempt has been made to allay the discontent unhappily existing in Nova Scotia. The papers connected with this subject will be submitted for your favourable consideration.

In continuance of the course commenced last session, Bills will be presented to you for the assimilation of the criminal laws existing in the several provinces. No greater boon can be conferred on a country than a well defined code of criminal law, of general application and easy ascertainment.

Among other measures, Bills will be presented to you for the establishment of uniform and amended laws respecting Parlia-

mentary elections, Bankruptcy and Insolvency, and Patents of invention and discovery.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—

The estimates for the expenditure of the coming financial year will be submitted to you. They have been framed with every economy compatible with the efficiency of the Public Service. I have also desired that the financial accounts of the past year shall be laid before you.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate, and

Gentlemen of the House of Commons.—

The charters of the several banks are drawing to a close, and the important subjects of banking and currency will be brought under your notice.

In considering these questions, which so deeply affect, not only the important interests of commerce, but the daily transactions of life, I feel assured that you will endeavour to adopt such principles as, in their application, may ensure the greatest measure of safety to the public, without curtailing the facilities requisite for the encouragement and extension of trade.

I have enumerated a variety of topics but they are of moment and press for decision within the limits of the session. I commend them all in confidence to your deliberate judgment, earnestly hoping that a blessing may, and your counsels and enable you to discharge with dignity and effect the great trust to which the order of Providence has called you.

In the Commons several new members were introduced, and Sir J. A. Macdonald moved for leave to introduce several new Bills. On motion the House adjourned.

THE SENATE.

On Friday the 16th, after prayers, the resolutions on which to found an address in reply to the speech from the Throne were moved by the Hon. Mr. Lacoste and seconded by the Hon. D. Wark.

After some discussion the resolutions were passed, and Hon. Messrs. Lacoste, Wark, and Campbell were appointed to draft an address founded on them.

After a few minutes' recess they brought in the address, which was approved, ordered to be engrossed and signed by the Speaker, and presented to His Excellency by the Senators who are members of the Government. The address is, as usual, an echo of the speech, which we have already given.

THE COMMONS.

Shortly after the House opened the Hon. Sir G. E. Cartier entered, and was warmly welcomed by the members.

Mr. SIMPSON, of Algoma, then moved that an address be presented in reply to the speech from the throne, and craved the indulgence of the House, as it was only the second time that he had had the privilege of addressing the House. He then took up the paragraphs of the speech seriatim. He forcibly urged the necessity of securing the North-west territory to prevent its absorption by the United States, and from his own knowledge of the country he could assure the House, that its acquisition, by the Dominion, would be of incalculable advantage as the soil of a great portion of the country was extraordinarily rich. Referring to the land in the territory owned by the aborigines, he said that mistaken notions were