

The Honorable the Speaker presented to the House a communication from the Governor General's Secretary.

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

OTTAWA, 24th February, 1886.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Session of the Dominion Parliament, on Thursday, the 25th instant, at 3 o'clock.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. STREATFEILD,

Governor General's Secretary.

The Honorable
The Speaker of the Senate.

The House was adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the House was resumed.

His Excellency the Most Honorable Sir HENRY CHARLES KEITH PETTY-FITZMAURICE, Marquis of Lansdowne, in the County of Somerset, Earl of Wycombe, of Chipping-Wycombe, in the County of Bucks, Viscount Caln and Calstone in the County of Wilts, and Lord Wycombe, Baron of Chipping-Wycombe, in the County of Bucks, in the Peerage of Great Britain; Earl of Kerry and Earl of Shelburne, Viscount Clanmaurice and Fitzmaurice, Baron of Kerry, Lixnaw and Dunkerron, in the Peerage of Ireland, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 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 then pleased to open the Session by a gracious Speech to both Houses.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

On meeting you again I have the pleasing duty to perform of congratulating you on the sufficient harvest of last year and on the prosperity and substantial progress of the country.

Since the suppression of the insurrection in the North-West Territories peace and order have been restored and now prevail. After so serious an outbreak some disquiet and apprehension of the recurrence of those disorders may naturally be expected to linger, and it will be the duty of the Government to make such precautionary arrangements as will assure the present inhabitants, as well as intending settlers, of efficient protection against all disturbance.

I warmly congratulate you on the practical completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and on the announcement that it will be open for the daily carriage of passengers and freight from Ocean to Ocean, in the month of June next. This great work, so important alike to the Empire and the Dominion, cannot fail to increase the trade between British Columbia and the other Provinces, to ensure the early development and settlement of Manitoba and the North-West, and greatly to add to the commercial prosperity of the whole country.