

from the United States troops, and have since remained on the Canadian side.

The United States Government made a friendly but unsuccessful attempt to induce these Indians to return to their reservations. It is to be hoped that such arrangements may yet be made as may lead to their permanent and peaceful settlement, and thus relieve Canada of a source of uneasiness and a heavy expenditure.

The surveys of the Pacific Railway have been pressed to completion during the past season. A complete instrumental survey of the route, by the valleys of the North Thompson and Lower Fraser Rivers, has been made with a view to ascertain definitely, whether that route presents more favourable features than the routes already surveyed to Dean Inlet and Bute Inlet, respectively. It is believed that the additional information now obtained will enable my Government to determine which route is the most advantageous from Tête Jaune Cache to the sea. Full information will be laid before you at an early day, of the season's work in this and other directions.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the abundant harvest reaped in all quarters of the Dominion; and I rejoice that under this and other influences there has been some improvement in the Revenue returns, thus indicating, I trust, that the commercial depression that has so long afflicted Canada, in common with other countries, is passing away.

My attention has been called to some imperfections in the existing system of auditing the Public Accounts, and a measure providing for their more thorough and effective supervision will be submitted for your consideration.

The prospect of obtaining, at an early day, greater facilities for reaching the North Western Territories and the Province of Manitoba, is sure to attract a larger number of settlers every year, and, as much of the prosperity of the Dominion depends on the rapid settlement of the fertile lands in those Territories, it is desirable and necessary to facilitate such settlement as much as possible. In order to effect this, measures will be submitted for your consideration concerning the registration of titles, the enactment of a Homestead Law, and the promotion of Railway enterprise in districts not touched by the Canada Pacific Railway.

Your attention will be called to a measure for better securing the independence of Parliament.

Experience has shown that certain changes may advantageously be made in the departmental arrangements existing at present. A bill will be submitted to you for accomplishing this purpose without increasing the expenditure, or the number of Departments.

It is very desirable that there should be uniform legislation in all the provinces respecting the traffic in spirituous liquors. Hitherto that trade has been regulated by Provincial laws, or laws existing before the Confederation of the Provinces, although there has been lately a conflict of authority as to the jurisdiction of the local authorities. A bill making the necessary provision will be submitted for your consideration.

Various measures found necessary for the amendment of existing laws will also be submitted for your approval.

#### *Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

The Estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you at an early day. They have been prepared with an anxious desire to provide for all the branches of the public service and the execution of pressing public works within the limits of the expected revenue, without increasing the burden of taxation.

I have directed that the Public Accounts of the past financial year shall be laid before you.

#### ENGLAND.

THE NEW MASTER OF TRINITY.—The *London Law Journal* speaks in warm terms of the election of Sir Henry Maine to the office of Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. It says: "In the present day, the career in the world of great mathematicians and classical scholars does not, as a rule, correspond with the expectations formed in the Senate House or the Sheldonian Theatre. The 'Honour men' do not shine as brightly as they ought to do in the real battle of life. But Sir Henry Maine affords a remarkable instance of persistent success. As an under graduate he won the Cravan Scholarship, and he graduated as Senior Classic and Chancellor's Medallist. He was Regius Professor of Law at Cambridge for some years, and after that he was Reader in Jurisprudence and Civil Law at the Middle Temple; while he