

necessity of a strict and rigid economy. Participating in this conviction, we shall be ready again to consider the propriety of making the requisite provision for the Queen's service.

"That we thank His Excellency for the assurance that the accounts for the several departments shall be placed in our hands with as little delay as possible.

"That we are profoundly grateful that it pleased Almighty God in the last autumn to bless our land with a plentiful harvest, and that we see around us, at the present moment, the signs of a revival of commerce. We earnestly pray that these marks of returning prosperity may continue to increase, and that our people may have abundant cause to be thankful for the welfare of their country, and the maintenance of law and order.

"That we shall use our utmost endeavours that the laws may receive at our hands such amendments and changes as may from time to time be needed, but that we rejoice with His Excellency to think that few subjects of a broad and important character yet remain to be dealt with by immediate legislation."

The hon. gentleman remarked that he was upwards of sixty years old, a great many years of which he had spent in the Legislative Council, and although on many occasions it had devolved upon him to perform the duty which he was now about to perform, yet on no occasion had he done so with so much pleasure as at present. The Government deserved great credit for what they had accomplished since the last Session of Parliament, especially for the Financial arrangements that had been entered into. When he looked at the present position of the Province and contrasted it with its position on days gone by, he was filled with admiration. Many years ago it had been his lot to be in England at the time the Hon. Mr. Dunn, the then Receiver General, was there negotiating from the rich firm of the Rothschilds, a small loan for some public purpose, which did not amount to more than £250,000. Mr. Dunn pointed out the advantages and resources of our Province, of its Canals and navigation, in glowing terms, but after listening to him for some time, Mr. Rothschild concluded the interview by saying, "Mr. Dunn, all this looks very well on paper. Your ship looks well but I am afraid that it will sink." Since then a great change has taken place—the position of the Province now might be favourably contrasted with what it was then, and for its present high position, the Finance Minister deserves credit. It was the constant remark of some people, with reference to the recent Financial arrangements, that we could have done better—that we could have borrowed money at a lower rate. But such was not the case; and it was a matter of astonishment and congratulation that the arrangements completed by the Finance Minister had been brought to such a successful issue. There was scarcely a nation in Europe that could have gone through what Canada had done and come out of the trial so safe, and there was scarcely a nation in Europe that had a national debt consolidated as Canada had. At the present moment Canada is in a proud position, and although as a nation she might attain to a more important position, yet he for one never wished

to see such a change in the constitution as would render her independent of the Mother country. While the Minister of Finance was entitled to much credit for his labours during the recess, the Post Master General was also entitled to great praise for the arrangements which he had effected in his department during the same period; and although the perfecting of those arrangements had been ushered in by a most melancholy occurrence, involving a dreadful loss of life, yet he hoped that the sad event would not mar the ultimate success of the enterprise. With regard to the resolutions, they were a mere echo of the speech; they showed he thought that a healthy state of things was beginning to exist; and as regarded the people themselves, he hoped and believed, from what he saw and heard, that a better and more amicable feeling was springing up, owing, he believed, to the intercourse that was had between them, and the more they met each other the stronger this feeling would become. When the union of the Provinces was first proposed, he opposed it. He did not think that it would work well. But, now that the Union was established, he would not be a party to breaking it, as it was undoubtedly for the advantage of the country that it should be maintained. But he should have mentioned, when speaking of the recent postal arrangements and the present financial condition of our Province, that, according to recent returns, it appears there is a deficiency of some \$8,000,000 in the United States Post Office Department, and this, too, in a country where the means of communication are so perfect. Our Department could compare favorably with this. At one time he thought that our Post Office could not sustain itself at the present rate of postage, but he was happy to find himself disappointed. He would now read the resolution which, he hoped, would be passed unanimously, but, before doing so, he must confess the pleasure it gave him, and he was sure every member in the House, to know that we were to receive a visit from the Prince of Wales during the present year. (Hear, hear). It was well known what a good Queen we had, and although we were denied the pleasure of receiving her, yet everyone would join in giving her son, His Royal Highness, a fitting welcome. Before concluding, he might remark that all the great questions which had vexed the Province for many years had happily been disposed of, and at present there were none to distract the attention of hon. gentlemen from the business of legislation, before them, which he hoped would be disposed of, and the members allowed to return home in seasonable time.

Hon. Mr. LATERRIERE seconded the Address in a brief and eloquent speech.

Hon. Mr. DESLAQUIERE, in rising to make a few remarks on the resolution before the House, observed that nothing could be more welcome than the cordial expressions contained in the despatch from Her Majesty announcing her intention of sending out her eldest son, the heir apparent, to visit us; and he was sure that the visit would prove in every way a satisfactory one.