

The subject of the law relating to insolvency will necessarily engage your attention.

The efforts made by the several Provinces, as well as by the Dominion, to encourage immigration, have met with success, and a large number of valuable settlers has been added to our population. I do not doubt that you will continue your liberal aid to this import antobject.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—*

I have directed that the Accounts of the past financial year shall be laid before you. The prosperous condition of our finances continues, and the revenue has been sufficient to meet all charges upon it.

The estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you. They have been prepared with due regard to economy as well as to the efficiency of the public service; and I trust that the supplies which are necessary, will be granted without inconvenience to the people.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate,*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—*

Your best attention will, I doubt not, be devoted to the important interests committed to your charge, and I am confident that your deliberations will redound to the advantage and prosperity of the country.

The Right Honorable Sir *John A. Macdonald*, a Member of the Honorable the Privy Council, delivered to Mr. Speaker four Messages from His Excellency the Governor General, signed by His Excellency.

And the said Messages were read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members of the House being uncovered, and are as follow :—

*DUFFERIN.*

The Governor General transmits for the information of the Senate and House of Commons the accompanying papers relative to the disallowance of the Act 36 Victoria, Chap. 1, intituled "An Act to provide for the examination of witnesses on Oath, by Committees of the Senate and House of Commons, in certain cases."

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

OTTAWA, 23RD OCTOBER, 1873.

[COPY.]

[No. 116.]

"CANADA, May 3rd, 1873.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to forward to your Lordship a certified copy of a Bill entitled, "A Bill to provide for the Examination of Witnesses on Oath by Committees of the Senate and House of Commons in certain cases," which has passed both Houses of the Canadian Parliament, and to which I have this day given my assent.

The introduction of this Bill into the House of Commons arose out of the following circumstance :—

On the 2nd April, the Hon. *Lucius Seth Huntington*, Member for Shefford, in the Province of Quebec, made the following motion :—

"Hon. Mr. *Huntington* moved that Mr. *Huntington*, a member of this House, having stated in his place, that he is credibly informed and believes that he can establish by satisfactory evidence,—