

gence of the House while I refer briefly to some of the points referred to in that Speech. The country, Sir, is to be congratulated upon the fact that His Excellency is enabled to assure this House that nothing beyond the ordinary legislation of the country will require its attention. At this moment, Sir, when the great powers of Europe confront the possibility, if not the probability of a general war,—at this moment, when the great nation to the south of us is agitated by discussions over a proposed financial measure, which, if it become the law of that land, will for the first time inflict the stain of commercial dishonour upon the legislation of the general Government of that country, and will protract, if it does not intensify, the commercial evils under which that nation now labours,—we are enabled to meet at this time with no fear of invasion threatening us, with no fear of internal discord to disturb us, and with no mistakes of our rulers to be provided against or condemned. Sir, the second paragraph of the Speech of His Excellency makes incidental allusion to a coming event which I could fain wish, and which I doubt not the vast majority of the people of Canada could wish, was an event in the more distant future than it is. I refer, Sir, to the probable recall of His Excellency. I cannot forbear at this time from paying my humble tribute to the excellences of the Viceroy of Her Majesty in Canada. Lord Dufferin has shown a just and generous appreciation of the advantages and the resources of Canada, and of the intelligence and the energy of its people. He has made praiseworthy and energetic efforts to make himself acquainted, from personal observation, with every Province in this Dominion; and certainly the assertion would not be an invidious one, if I say that no Viceroy who has preceded him as the representative of Her Majesty in this land has had so accurate a knowledge of its resources, of its advantages, and of its wants, as the knowledge possessed by Lord Dufferin. Lord Dufferin, Sir, in various ways, has conferred immense benefits upon Canada; notably, through the influence exerted by his

speeches in Canada and in England. Those speeches, coming from so high an authority, necessarily attracted great attention. Those speeches, Sir, did Canada full justice. They made the people of Europe aware of the advantages that Canada had to offer to the emigrant. They were more potent as an agency for promoting emigration than all the emigration agencies and emigrant agents that we have at the present time in Europe.

An HON. MEMBER: Except the Agent-General.

MR. CHARLTON: When, Mr. Speaker, at some future day, Canada shall have assumed national importance in wealth and in population, as she now possesses it in territorial area, we will look upon Lord Dufferin as one of the principal foundation-builders of that nationality. I have pleasure, Mr. Speaker, in the belief and in the knowledge that Lord Dufferin is held in high estimation not in Canada alone; and I may be permitted, in this connection, to refer to the reception which he met with upon a recent visit to Washington, when the President of the United States returned his visit,—an honour which President Grant refused to accord to Prince Alexis, and one which no President of the United States has ever before conferred upon any Prince or foreign Governor. That honour was conferred by President Hayes upon Lord Dufferin. In the ranks of artists, of authors, of scholars, and of statesmen, Lord Dufferin occupies a proud position; and, Sir, the popular regrets at the approaching withdrawal of Lord Dufferin from Canada, will not be upon his account alone. Her Excellency Lady Dufferin, through the graciousness and amiability of her manners, the beauty of her person, and her intellectual refinement, has endeared herself to the people of this country. Reference is made in the Speech, Sir, to the award recently made at Halifax, upon the claims put forward by Canada, under the Treaty of Washington, in connection with our fisheries. Unfortunately, our expectations have not been fully met in that award; unfortunately, the amount that we claimed has not been awarded us. We expected vastly more than we are