

federal position, and it is with pleasure that we see called to form such a Court the most eminent legal men of the country, whose appointments have everywhere been viewed with great favour. The selection of officers would also appear to have been particularly happy. The want of exact and systematic information on the different categories of crime, and the importance of collecting and classifying criminal statistics, have also engaged the attention of the Government, and a bill containing the necessary provisions will be submitted in regard to this matter. In treating of the question of statistics, I venture to express a hope that the Government will also see fit to occupy itself with vital and hygienic statistics, with a view to the removal of causes of epidemics; and an effort to lessen in general the rate of mortality is a work of philanthropy, and well worthy the attention of the Government. If I recollect rightly, the Government is already pledged to deal with this important measure. The consolidation of the Statutes has also become a necessity in consequence of the number of the amendments that have been made in many of our laws, and we shall see it accomplished with pleasure. Another measure, providing for the better administration of the property of banks in a state of insolvency, will likewise be submitted. The necessity for such a law is now imperative, inasmuch as the existing law furnishes no method of liquidating the affairs of banks which during a commercial crisis may fail or suspend their payments. I am persuaded that is a matter the public would be glad to see adjusted. The Government having under its control an immense extent of territory, has been obliged to provide for an unfortunate portion of its inhabitants, the Indians; these children of the forest whom they are stringently bound to maintain. To treat them tenderly, and to open to them the doors of civilization, is the noble and beautiful mission, the accomplishment of which one of the paragraphs deals with.

It is to be regretted that commercial depression should have seriously affected our revenue, and that a reduction of the expenditure of several of the Departments has been thereby necessitated. Let us hope that the greatest prudence will be exercised in the discharge of this delicate task, and that above all, nothing will be done to prejudice its efficacy.

The correspondence, as well as the reports and other documents bearing on the

construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, will be submitted to us. This paragraph is *multum in parvo*, since it promises in so few words details on the immense project of uniting the two oceans. Pending their submission, let us hope that no effort will be spared to keep the compact entered into with British Columbia at the time of Confederation with that Province, to develop her immense stretch of territory, and to endow the Dominion with one of the most gigantic works in the entire world; provided, nevertheless, that the whole be carried out in such a manner as not to interfere with the financial status of the country, nor do injustice to this colony, which, let us hope, will consider that the advantages and well being of the Province in question ought not to be lightly compromised. During recess I notice Mr. Speaker that these remarks have been modified in a manner which is very pleasing to me. While regretting that circumstances should have unfortunately been the cause of a deficit in Manitoba, is it pleasing to know that aid shall be extended, as sought here, by interior re-organization, whereby expenditure shall be diminished. It is, in my judgement, a real reform brought about by the present Government. Honourable gentlemen need not go very far back to recall that from among the various parts of the Dominion our budget has been not unfrequently assailed, although, on the other hand, not the slightest effort was made to equalize revenue and expenditure, reliance being invariable had in the magical effect of "Better terms." Therefore is this a policy which shall turn back the invading wave of concession which characterized the first years of confederation; and for my part, I am well satisfied with it.

His Excellency finally expresses a hope that wisdom and moderation may guide our deliberations. We cheerfully concur in this portion of the speech, and assure His Excellency of our mindfulness that duty is higher than glory, and justice higher than success. I would be disposed to continue, did I not feel that my remarks might lessen the effect of the Speech from the Throne, but I leave it to the seconder of the Address to supply the deficiency. He concluded by moving:—

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to offer the respectful thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious