

An Act respecting certain Savings Banks in the Provinces of *Ontario* and *Quebec*.

An Act to render permissive the use of the Metric or Decimal system of Weights and Measures.

To these Bills, the Royal Assent was pronounced by the Clerk of this House in the words following :—

“In Her Majesty’s name, His Excellency the Governor General doth assent to “these Bills.”

Then the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Commons addressed His Excellency the Governor General as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency : ‘In the name of the Commons, I present to Your Excellency a Bill, intituled : “An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of “money required to defray certain expenses of the Public Service for the financial years “ending, respectively the 30th June 1871, and the 30th June, 1872,” to which I humbly request Your Excellency’s assent.

To this Bill, the Clerk of this House, by His Excellency’s command, did thereupon say :—

“In Her Majesty’s name, His Excellency the Governor General thanks her loyal “subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to this Bill.”

Then His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to deliver the following speech :—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :—*

In releasing you from further attendance in Parliament, I beg leave to express my warm acknowledgements for the diligence with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties.

The Session has been brief, but work of importance has been accomplished, and I may congratulate you on the prospect which it foreshadowed, that in the future, the Sessions of the Parliament of the Dominion will not make the inconvenient demands on the time of the Members which they have done in the past.

The arrival in *Ottawa*, of the Representatives elected to serve for the Province of *Manitoba*, and their taking their seats in Parliament, mark signally the completion of the Union of that Province with the Dominion.

The Criminal, Militia and other Statute Laws, not in their nature inapplicable to *Manitoba*, have been extended to that Province.

The regulations for the Survey and granting of lands in *Manitoba* were modelled on a system tested by experience, and will, by their liberality, offer a free home to all, without restriction, who desire to settle in the country and avail themselves of the advantages held out to them.

It shall be one of my earliest cares during the recess to take steps to negotiate, on equitable principles, with the Indian tribes in *Manitoba* and the North West Territory, in order to quiet their titles to lands.

The Session which we are now closing has witnessed the consummation of the Union of *Manitoba*, and the adoption of the necessary initial measures to facilitate and ensure the admission of *British Columbia* into the Dominion.

The Addresses passed by the Senate and House of Commons have been sent forward to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for submission to Her Most Gracious Majesty, and I trust Parliament will, at its next Session, have the satisfaction of viewing as