The Statutes of 1887 relative to a Department of Trade and Commerce and to the office of Solicitor-General having been brought into force, the appointments were made which were contemplated by these Acts.

It is to be regretted that the Government of the United States were unable to accept the suggestions made by my Government on the subject of canal tolls, and that the President should have thought it necessary to impose exceptional tolls on Canadians using the Sault Sainte-Marie Canal, which has so long been free to the people of both countries. My Government, while ready to consider in a friendly spirit any proposals which may be made by the Government of the United States, have caused efforts to be made to hasten the completion of the Canadian canal works, which will soon afford to the commerce of the Dominion a highway within our own country.

Measures will be laid before you for the improvement of the Franchise Act, for the amendment of the laws relating to the Civil Service, and the superannuation of civil servants, for regulating the admission of evidence in causes and matters under the control of the Parliament of Canada, for extending the system of voting by ballot in the Northwest Territories, and for simplifying the laws relating to lands and land transfers in the Territories.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The Public Accounts of the past year and the Estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you without delay, and I trust it will be seen that ample provision may be made for the public service without increasing taxation.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:
    Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I have every confidence that all these matters will receive your best attention and that your deliberations will keep in view, above all other considerations, the welfare and stability of the country.

His Excellency the Governor-General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

BILL INTRODUCED.

Bill (A) " An Act relating to Railways." (Mr. Bowell.)

THE ADDRESS.

MOTION.

The SPEAKER reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same was read by the Clerk.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL moved that the Speech be taken into consideration on Monday next.

The motion was agreed to.

THE COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL moved—

That all the members present during this session be appointed a committee to consider the Orders and Customs of this House and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said committee have leave to meet in this House, when and as often as they please.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned at 4 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Monday, January 30th, 1893.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE LATE SENATORS GIRARD, GRANT AND STEVENS.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL—Before the Orders of the Day are called, it has been suggested, and I think very properly, that reference should be made to those members of the Senate who have passed away since last session. I can only express my very deep regret that the first duty I have to perform in this House should be to give expression not only to my own feelings but what I believe to be the feelings of every member of the Senate who has had the pleasure of acquaintance with the late hon. gentlemen, Messrs. Girard, Stevens and Grant. Personally, I have had more intimate acquaintance with the first-named gentleman. Ever since he was appointed to the Senate, I have had constant intercourse with him and I always found that the representative from Manitoba had but one object in view, and that was the lending and exercising of his ability and talent, whatever they may have been, in the interests of his country and more particulary in those of Manitoba, where he had lived for years. The other hon. gentlemen are better known to you, with whom they were associated for many years, than to me, but knowing them casually, and from the position that they held in the country and in the particular localities in which they lived, I am justified, I am sure, in saying that all regret their death and that