

established. So the matter rests at the time of writing (17th April, 1879.)

8.—The session was an unusually long one, lasting until the 10th May, but comparatively little business was done, and

Prorogation. had it not been the last session before a General Election, when every member feels bound to make several speeches for the benefit of his constituents, it is doubtful whether the real business of the session would have lasted much over six weeks. This being the last year of the Earl of Dufferin's stay in Canada both Houses passed Addresses to him expressive of regret at his departure, and it is doubtful whether any similar Address to a Governor General was ever so heartily felt. His Excellency, in proroging Parliament, gave assent to twenty-two public and twenty-three private bills. Amongst the most important was a new Temperance Act introduced in the Senate by Hon. R. W. Scott, the Act repeals portions of the Dunkin Act of 1864 and is a Permissive bill by which electoral divisions have the right to petition the Secretary of State to have a vote taken on the question of prohibiting the sale of liquor in that division, provided one-fourth of the electors qualified to vote for a member of Parliament sign the petition. Voting to be by ballot. A new Independence of Parliament Act was passed, which reduces the liability of members sitting and voting illegally in the House. Acts amending the Election Act; providing for a new system of auditing the public accounts; repealing the Customs duty on malt; with reference to the use of bill stamps; adulteration of food, &c. were passed. One of the most necessary Acts was that relating to crimes of violence, which was introduced by Hon. Mr. Blake, and which gives the Governor-in-Council power to Proclaim the Act in force in any district, after which all persons are forbidden, under heavy penalties, to carry fire-arms except soldiers, volunteers, peace officers &c. This Act was specially intended for Montreal, where lawlessness had increased to an alarming extent; and it was Proclaimed there shortly after its passage and has done much good.

CHAPTER LV.

GOVERNMENT OF THE EARL OF DUFFERIN —PRINCIPAL EVENTS OF 1878.

1. DOMINION BOARD OF TRADE.—2. THE 12TH JULY RIOTS.—3. THE ELECTIONS.—4. DEPARTURE OF THE EARL OF DUFFERIN.—5. THE MARQUIS OF LORNE AND H. R. H. PRINCESS LOUISE.

1.—The eighth annual meeting of the Dominion Board of Trade was opened in the City Hall, Ottawa, on the 15th of January, the President, Adam Brown Esq., presiding. After the adoption of the annual report and the delivering of the President's address, the first business was the adoption of a resolution in favor of amending the Stamp Act so that either the maker or endorser could cancel the stamp. Resolutions in favor of amending the Weights and Measures Act, and recommending an uniform system of Customs appraisements and a reduction of the number of small ports of entry were also carried. Major Walker introduced a resolution in favor of Reciprocity with the United States, which was adopted. Considerable discussion took place on a resolution recommending that the inspection of butter and hides should be made compulsory, and it was finally adopted by 26 to 9. Mr. Mackenzie introduced a resolution to the effect that while the Board was content with the seventeen and a half per cent. tariff, it was of opinion that in the event of any revision the interests of manufacturers should be considered; which was adopted. A great deal of discussion took place on the subject of the sugar duties and the matter was referred to a Committee which reported in favor of advising the Government to adopt counter-vailing duties, and to reduce low grades for refining, it being held that no successful business could be done with the West Indies unless the refining interest was protected. The report was adopted by 28 to 5. Much fault was found not only with the existing duty