

I have now called you together at the earliest convenient moment after the return of the Deputation, in order that you may receive the report of their mission, and complete the important business which, at the conclusion of the last Session, was left unfinished.

I have directed that the correspondence referring to the mission to *England* shall be communicated to you for your consideration.

The happy termination of the Civil War which has for the last four years prevailed in the *United States of America*, cannot fail to exercise a beneficial influence on the commercial and industrial interests of this Province, and we may trust that the re-establishment of peace will lead to a constantly increasing development of friendly relations between our people and the citizens of the great Republic.

The circumstances which rendered it necessary to place a portion of the Volunteer Militia of the Province on permanent duty, having ceased to exist, the force has been recalled, and I have to express my feeling of satisfaction at the readiness with which the men responded to the call of duty, and the general good conduct which they exhibited during the period of their service.

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly :*

I have directed that the estimates for the current year, and the statement of the expenditure which has been incurred chargeable against the vote of credit of last Session shall be laid before you.

You will find with reference to both that economy has been combined with a due regard to efficiency.

*Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen :*

I have not failed to transmit to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for presentation to Her Majesty, the Addresses to which you agreed during the last Session, in favor of a Federal Union of the Colonies of *British North America*.

I have desired that the reply of the Secretary of State shall be communicated to you, and I trust that mature examination of the project will, ere long, induce the Legislatures of the other Provinces to concur with you in giving their sanction to a measure which has been adopted as a great feature of Imperial policy, and has been twice noticed with approbation in Her Majesty's Speeches from the Throne.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the Legislative Assembly withdrew.

PRAYERS.

The Honorable Mr. *Campbell* presented to the House a Bill intituled: "An Act relative to Common Schools."

The said Bill was read for the first time.

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

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Campbell*, seconded by the Honorable Sir *N. F. Belleau*, it was

*Ordered*, That the House do take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General, to-morrow.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Campbell*, seconded by the Honorable Sir *N. F. Belleau*, it was

*Ordered*, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General be printed in both languages for the use of Members.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Campbell*, seconded by the Honorable Sir *N. F. Belleau*, it was