

of my friends opposite, and from the treatment which I have received in the past, that I shall receive the same courtesy in the future, and I think I need have no higher aim in discharging the duties which pertain to this particular office than in attempting to follow in the footsteps of my right hon. friend while he occupied the position. If I succeed in discharging the duties as acceptably to the House as my right hon. friend then shall I be perfectly satisfied.

Hon. Mr. POWER.—I do not propose to make a speech. I wish to make a few observations on the speech with which the address deals, but before saying a word about that I should like to repeat, in perhaps stronger terms, the compliments paid by the right hon. leader of the opposition to the hon. gentleman from Pictou (Mr. Bell) who moved the address. I have had the pleasure of knowing that gentleman for a great many years, and I venture to sum up my view with respect to him by saying that in the whole Conservative party in Nova Scotia I do not think there was any gentleman whose appointment to the Senate would have been more fitting than his own. The hon. gentleman had experience in the House of Assembly in Nova Scotia and the House of Commons at Ottawa. He is liked and respected wherever he is known, and he has made a good record in both those Houses. I have no doubt that when the history of the present parliament comes to be written the hon. gentleman's record will be at least equal to what it has been elsewhere. The hon. gentleman from Gananoque (Mr. Taylor) has been undoubtedly a very strenuous fighter in another place, but I do not quite agree with the right hon. leader of the opposition in supposing that he and the hon. gentleman from Pictou would have adopted a markedly different tone if the relative strengths of the two parties of this House were different. My experience has been that there is something soothing and tempering about the atmosphere of the Senate, so that when the fiercest fighter of them all comes up from the other Chamber, in a little while he is subdued to the tone of this House.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED.

As to the hon. leader of the government in this House, I need say nothing in his praise. The members of the Liberal party in the House have always looked upon him with a friendly eye in the past, and there is no reason to suppose they will change their views; and as a humble member of the House, I wish to express my concurrence in the statement made by our right hon. leader that there will be no factious opposition from this side of the House. Before dealing with the speech from the throne I wish to make a brief observation as to His Royal Highness who now acts as Governor General. I endorse everything that has been said about him, and I wish to point out the exceptional honour done to Canada by the King in appointing his uncle to be Governor General of Canada. His Majesty appointed the man in the empire who stood next to himself to come here and act as Governor General to this Dominion. That is the very highest honour and compliment that could be paid to this country. His Majesty could not come himself, but he did the next best thing and sent his nearest relation. I do not propose to deal with the speech at any length. One of the early paragraphs says that negotiations have been opened for improved trade relations with the British West Indies and British Guiana. The hon. gentleman from Pictou (Mr. Bell) is perhaps old enough to remember that in the year 1866 a Commission was sent out by Nova Scotia for the purpose of establishing better trade relations with the West Indies and Guiana, and a member of that commission was an hon. gentleman from the county of Pictou. It will be remembered that in 1866 the question of the union of the colonies was a very live question, particularly in the province of Nova Scotia, and this hon. gentleman from the county of Pictou had declared himself as being hostile to confederation, and in order to eliminate him from discussions that would take place in the local legislature he was put on this commission and sent to try and make improved trade relations with the West Indies and Guiana. I do not think any important arrangements were made then, and I do not think any important arrangements will be made now.