

His Excellency the Governor General was then pleased to deliver the following Speech :—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I desire to thank you for the diligence and earnestness with which you have performed your duties during this protracted Session.

The large sums which the buoyant state of the Revenue has enabled you to appropriate in aid of the construction of railways and the great works of internal improvement will be carefully applied and economically expended, and must contribute in a large measure to the prosperity and progress of the Country.

The Dominion Lands Bill which embodies the results of the experience acquired during the last two years will, it is believed, greatly assist and encourage the settlers now flowing in such unprecedented numbers into *Manitoba* and the *North-West Territories*.

The amendments to the laws respecting the Militia will tend to improve the discipline, training and military education of that invaluable force.

The consolidation and amendment of the Statutes relating to the management of the Customs, while protecting the honest trader against fraudulent and dishonest competitors, will free the commerce of the Country from some of the restraints imposed on it by the previously existing laws.

The readjustment of the Tariff and the reduction of duties on the raw materials used in our manufactures, together with the bounty granted on the production of pig iron, must aid in the further development of Canadian industries.

It is gratifying also to know that the financial position of the Public Treasury has enabled you to lower the pressure of taxation by more than a million of dollars.

The Bill for the regulation of shop, saloon, and tavern licenses must have the effect of preventing the unrestrained sale of intoxicating liquors in every Province of the Dominion, and affords an efficient system for its successful operation freed from the suspicion of political bias or control; while at the same time it will not unduly interfere with the rights of those who had engaged in the trade under the authority of Legislative enactments.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I return you my thanks for the Supplies you have granted for the various public services.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House Commons :*

I desire to thank you for the great honor conferred on me by the presentation of a Joint Address. The Princess and I have both been profoundly touched by your words; and the message of which you make us the bearers comes, as we personally know, from a people determined to maintain the Empire.

The severance of my official connection with Canada does not loosen the tie of affection which will ever make me desire to serve this country.

I pray that the prosperity I have seen you enjoy may continue, and that the blessing of God may at all times be yours to strengthen you in Unity and Peace.

Then the Honorable The Speaker of the Senate said :—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

It is His Excellency the Governor General's will and pleasure that this Parliament be prorogued until Wednesday the Fourth day of July next, to be here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued until Wednesday, the Fourth day of July next.