

THE DEBATES
OF THE
SENATE OF CANADA

IN THE

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF CANADA, APPOINTED TO
MEET FOR DESPATCH OF BUSINESS ON THURSDAY, THE FIFTEENTH DAY
OF MARCH, IN THE FIFTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF

HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Thursday, March 15th, 1894.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers.

The House adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the House was resumed.

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

This day, at THREE o'clock P.M., HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL proceeded in state to the Senate Chamber, in the Parliament Buildings, and took his seat upon the Throne. The Members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, His Excellency was pleased to open the FOURTH SESSION of the SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA, with the following Speech:—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

¶ In the Queen's name I greet you, for the first time since assuming the high functions intrusted to me by Her Majesty; and it is with feelings of the liveliest

satisfaction that I thus meet you assembled for the labours of another session of Parliament.

This feeling of satisfaction is enhanced by the opportunities which I have already enjoyed of visiting, and in my official capacity renewing acquaintance with, several of the chief centres of the enterprise and activity of this Dominion; nor need I refrain from assuring you that I have been deeply impressed by the heartiness of the reception accorded to me as Her Majesty's Viceroy and Representative, a reception which has once more manifested the loyalty, the cordiality and the public spirit of the Canadian people.

My predecessor was able to express gratification to you last year, on an increase in trade and on the continued progress of the Dominion. It is gratifying to me to observe that the expectation which was then formed—that the volume of trade during the then current year would exceed that of any year in the history of the Dominion—has been fully realized, and that Canada's progress continues with every mark of stability and permanence.

It may be observed with satisfaction that a large proportion of this increase is shown to have been due to an extension of our commerce with Great Britain.

It is a cause of thankfulness that our people have been spared in a very great degree from the sufferings which have visited the populations of some other countries during many months past, and that while the commercial depression prevailing abroad could not but affect the activity of business in the Dominion, we have been free from any extensive financial disaster or widespread distress.

The revenues of the year have been ample for the services which you provided for, and have met the expectations on which the appropriations of last year were based.

The peaceful conclusion, by the award of the arbitrators at Paris, of the controversy which had prevailed so long, with respect to the Seal Fisheries in the Pacific Ocean and the rights of British subjects in Behring Sea, has removed the only source of contention which existed between Great Britain and the United States with regard to Canada. There is every reason to believe that Her Majesty's Government will