

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I will call the attention of the Minister of the Interior to the subject, and endeavour to have the return here. I presume a good deal of it will be in the minister's report. I have not examined it.

#### THE ADDRESS.

##### MOTION.

The Order of the Day having been called :

Consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech on the opening of the first session of the ninth parliament.

Hon. Mr. ELLIS said : Permit me to ask your kind consideration while I proceed with the task, the pleasant task which I have undertaken to perform here to-day, that of moving an address of thanks to His Excellency the Governor General for the speech with which he was pleased to open this session of parliament. I am the more emboldened to ask that favour from the fact that I know great consideration is shown to members of this House who make their appearance here for the first time, and also there may be sympathetic recollections in the minds of hon. gentlemen of their own feelings, when they for the first time lifted up their voice in this Chamber, when the sound of their speech seemed strange to them, and when they struggled to give utterance to their sentiments. I can scarcely plead youth and inexperience, but I can plead the inexperience of which the years make us so conscious, when we enter for the first time upon the discharge of new duties and try untrodden paths. Before I make the formal motion, I should like to refer to one or two paragraphs in the speech of His Excellency. The first paragraph announces the death of the sovereign. I do not propose to enter upon any lengthy discussion of the sovereign as a constitutional ruler, because I am quite satisfied that that will be discussed on another occasion by gentlemen in this House who are much more capable of speaking upon those constitutional questions than I am. But it is impossible to refrain from making one or two observations with reference to the long reign which is now ended, undoubtedly the most glorious reign in the annals of England. The Queen has outlived two or three generations of states-

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL.

men. She came to the Throne at a time when there was a great—I would not perhaps use such a strong word as dissatisfaction—a great deal of agitation in England, and when some men thought that the period was in sight when the Crown might cease to be one of the estates of the realm. The Queen has passed away. The Crown is stronger in the affections of the people than it ever was. There is no question whatever as to the advisability of continuing the Crown and as to its remaining one of the great factors of the government of the country. I desire more especially to make reference to the sovereign herself as an individual, as one exercising power through her influence, rather than from the fact that she possessed authority. The Queen, during her reign, has endeared herself to her people, not only by her constitutional rule, not only by the fact that she recognized the men whom she selected as her advisers, but also because she entered into all the joys and into the spirit of her people in all the great matters which have so developed in the United Kingdom in the last sixty odd years. She was not only a sagacious and far-seeing monarch, but her judgments were strengthened by unparalleled experience. She was constantly strengthened by a strict sense of duty. The simplicity of her life, when she unbent herself in her domestic circle, appealed to the hearts of all, because every happy home in England and the world over recognized that the Queen, as an individual person, had the feelings of common humanity, and that she was, just in her own way, and in her own life, such a person as we might take to our own hearts, and as the people of England did take to their hearts. Her words of consolation, her messages of pity and tenderness, her expressions of kindly feeling for suffering people everywhere, bound her to countless hearts. Her sense of duty so high ; her rule so beneficial to the world, her good sense so potential, she will stand out always as a great ruler, and her influence will be felt for ages. It is difficult for us, I think, to realize the struggles which the sovereign may make for a quiet home—for such a life as we are able to lead in our own domestic circles. Shakespeare describes Henry V. on the battlefield of Agincourt, the night before the bat-