

Registrar of the County of *Leeds* (*David Jones*, Esquire, Returning Officer, *ex-officio*, for the South Riding of *Leeds*), for the election of a Member to represent the said South Riding of *Leeds*, in the Legislative Assembly, in the room and place of the Honorable *Albert Norton Richards*, who, since his election as the Representative of the said South Riding of *Leeds*, had accepted an office of profit under the Crown, to wit: the office of Solicitor General in and for that part of the Province of *Canada* called *Upper Canada*, *David Ford Jones*, Esquire, has been returned as duly elected accordingly, as appears by the Return to the said Writ of Election, dated the thirtieth day of January last past, which is now lodged of record in my office.

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery,
Quebec, 11th February, 1864.

(Signed,) L. R. FORTIER,
Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

To W. B. LINDSAY, Jr., Esquire,
Clerk, Legislative Assembly, *Quebec*.

Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Attorney General *J. S. Macdonald* have leave to bring in a Bill to provide for the administration of the Oaths of Office to persons appointed as Justices of the Peace in this Province.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday, the 29th instant.

Mr. Speaker reported, that when the House did attend His Excellency the Governor General, this day, in the Legislative Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, which he read to the House, as followeth:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

I am happy again to meet you in Parliament, and I feel confident that during the session now commenced, your best attention will be bestowed on Legislation for the public welfare.

I have taken steps for carrying into effect the Acts passed during last session for the organization of the Militia Force of the Province, and I will continue my best efforts for the attainment of so important an object.

The period is approaching when, by the conditions of the Treaty of Reciprocity between Her Majesty and the *United States of America*, the notice for the determination of its provisions may be given at the option of either party.

I have not failed to give my best attention to the subject of this treaty, and of the great interests affected by it.

Your attention will be invited to measures designed, by the improvement of our existing system of inland water communication, to attract to the channel of the *St. Lawrence* a larger share than we have heretofore enjoyed of the great and rapidly growing commerce of the Western Lakes.

You will also be invited to consider the expediency of providing for such improvements of the Canals constructed to obviate the natural impediments to the navigation of the *Ottawa* River, as will, it is believed, without involving a heavy outlay, greatly accelerate the development of the extensive and valuable territory drained by that noble stream and its tributaries.

Unforeseen obstacles have retarded the survey of the route of the proposed Railway between this Province and the Sister Colonies of *Nova Scotia* and *New Brunswick*. Arrangements are, however, now in progress, which I trust will soon lead to the execution of this preliminary work, the result of which will enable all parties to form a more satisfactory estimate than is possible at present, of the expense and practicability of the proposed undertaking.

The condition of the vast region lying to the north-west of the settled portions of the Province, is daily becoming a question of greater interest.

I have considered it advisable to open a correspondence with the Imperial Government,