

THE DEBATES

—OF THE—

SENATE OF CANADA,

—IN THE—

FOURTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF THE DOMINION OF
CANADA, APPOINTED TO MEET FOR DESPATCH OF BUSINESS
ON THE 25TH OF FEBRUARY, 1886, IN THE FORTY-
NINTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF

HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

THE SENATE,

Ottawa, Thursday, February 25th, 1886.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at
2.30 p.m.

Prayers and Routine proceedings.

The SPEAKER presented a communication from the Governor General's Secretary announcing that he would open the Session of the Dominion Parliament at Three o'clock.

The House was adjourned during
pleasure.

After some time the House was
resumed.

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

The GOVERNOR GENERAL being seated on the Throne, and the House of Commons being in attendance, with their Speaker, HIS EXCELLENCY was pleased to open the Session with the following gracious speech to both Houses :—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

On meeting you again I have the pleasing duty to perform of congratulating you on the sufficient harvest of last year and on the prosperity and substantial progress of the country.

Since the suppression of the insurrection in the North-West Territories, peace and order have been restored, and now prevail. After so serious an outbreak some disquiet and apprehension of the recurrence of those disorders may naturally be expected to linger, and it will be the duty of my Government to make such precautionary arrangements as will assure the present inhabitants, as well as intending settlers of efficient protection against all disturbance.

I warmly congratulate you on the practical completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and on the announcement that it will be open for the daily carriage of passengers and freight from ocean to ocean in the month of June next. This great work, so important alike to the Empire and the Dominion, cannot fail to increase the trade between British Columbia and the other provinces, to ensure the early development and settlement of Manitoba and the North-West, and greatly to add to the commercial prosperity of the whole country.

Should the negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States for the appointment of a Joint Commission to adjudicate just what is known as "The Fishery Question," and to consider the best means of developing our International Commerce, fail to secure any satisfactory result, you will be asked to make provision for the protection of our Inshore Fisheries by the extension of our present system of Marine Police.

The measure submitted to you last Session for the consolidation of the Statutes and for the introduction into the North-West Territories of a more simple and economical system for the transfer of land will be again laid before you for consideration and legislative action. The Act