

It is true this address comes before us on short notice, but it is easy to express thoughts that come from the heart, and it is from my heart that I express my regret at the departure of His Excellency and Her Royal Highness, and my best wishes for their happiness.

HON. MR. NELSON—Being the only representative of British Columbia at present in this House, the duty devolves on me to express, on behalf of the people of my Province, my perfect approval of this address, and their deep regret at the departure of Lord Lorne and Her Royal Highness from Canada. As you are all aware, they paid British Columbia a visit and while there endeared themselves to every individual, high and low throughout the Province. On their departure from British Columbia, while there was a widespread feeling of regret that their visit was so brief, we still felt that they were residing in Canada and, to a certain extent, were at home with us. Now that they are about to leave the Dominion the regret at their departure will be as deep and universal on the Pacific Coast as in this Province in which they reside. I am very sorry that some other members from British Columbia are not here to express the sentiments of our people in a better manner than I have been able to do.

HON. MR. MILLER—I do not think the hon. gentleman has any reason to express regret that there is no other representative here to speak for British Columbia on the present occasion. I think if a spokesman is at all necessary the hon. gentleman has discharged the duty exceedingly well. I rise, not for the purpose of adding anything to what has been so very well said by hon. gentlemen on both sides of the House, but rather to express a different opinion on one point from that given utterance to by some members who have already addressed the Senate. It seems to be thought by some gentlemen that the leader of the House is to blame because no notice of this motion was given, as they were in consequence unprepared to express themselves towards the illustrious persons to whom the motion relates, with such sentiments of loyalty and affection as they would desire.

HON. MR. BELLEROSE—The hon.

gentleman did not understand me ; what I meant to say was that no motion—

HON. MR. MILLER—I do not allude to the hon. gentleman. For my own part I must say that I would not rise at all now, had it not been for the number of hon. members from different sections and Provinces of the Dominion who have given expression to their feelings on the motion before the Senate—expressions so general, in fact, that those provinces whose representatives do not participate in this discussion would appear almost to occupy an invidious position as in fact not sympathizing with the address. Now, I take it that an expression of this kind is an official expression of the Legislature towards the eminent persons to whom the motion refers, but it is not usual that, on a motion such as this, any general discussion or expression of opinion is expected to take place. For instance, if we would refer to the manner in which this motion was made in the House of Commons—and I mention this, by the way, for the benefit of those who complain that the first intimation this House had of the motion was when the Minister of Justice laid it upon the table this morning—we find that it was moved in that chamber yesterday by the leader of the Government by whom a speech was made, and he was followed by the leader of the Opposition there, those being the only speakers upon the motion. Situated as we are in this Dominion, with a large national element differing from that of the majority of our population, an element which is legally recognized in the Constitution and in the proceedings of Parliament, I have always considered it very proper on occasions of this kind, that some representative of the French people in both branches of the Legislature should, on behalf of that nationality, rise and give expression to their views and feelings ; and I am happy to see that that duty was ably and fittingly discharged, as it was to-day by the hon. gentleman from Montarville (Mr. DeBoucherville). But as I am on my feet I will say a word or two on the motion before the House, and I desire only to say that I heartily approve of all that has been uttered both by the leader of the House and the leader of the Opposition. I am sure that the speeches of those hon. gentlemen will meet with the approbation