

His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir *Frederick Temple*, Earl of *Dufferin*, Viscount and Baron *Clandeboye of Clandeboye*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron *Dufferin and Clandeboye of Ballyleidy and Killeleagh*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of *Ireland*, and a Baronet, Knight of the Most Illustrious Order of *Saint Patrick*, and Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General of *Canada*, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., being seated in the Chair on the Throne,

The Honorable the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House—"It is His Excellency's pleasure they attend him immediately in this House."

Who, being come with their Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to open the Session by a gracious Speech to both Houses.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

I have much satisfaction in meeting you at this early and convenient season.

I have to congratulate you upon the organization of the *North-West* Police Force, and the success of its operations. It has materially aided in the creation of confidence and good-will among the Indian tribes; in the suppression of the liquor traffic; the establishment of legitimate trade; the collection of Customs duties; and, above all, in maintaining security for life and property within the Territory. Another effect of the presence of the Police in the *North-West* has been to enable the Government to largely reduce the strength of the Military establishment in that country.

The negotiation of a friendly Treaty with the *Crees* and *Sauteux* of the *North-West* for the cession of territory may be regarded as a further guarantee for the continuation of amicable relations with the Indian tribes of that vast region.

During the past summer, I had the pleasure and advantage of visiting a very large portion of the Province of *Ontario*, including the whole coast of *Georgian Bay* and *Lake Superior*. This official tour enabled me to form a better idea of the great extent of the comparatively well-settled country, and of that which is still almost wholly undeveloped. I was everywhere received with the kindest welcome, and was much gratified in witnessing the enterprise, contentment and loyalty manifested in every quarter.

Your attention will be invited to a measure for the creation of a Supreme Court. The necessity for such a measure has yearly become more and more apparent, since the organization of the Dominion; it is essential to our system of jurisprudence and to the settlement of constitutional questions.

You will also be invited to consider a Bill relating to the important subject of Insolvency.

Measures will be submitted to you providing for the reorganization of the government of the *North-West* and the consolidation of the laws relating to that country; for a general Insurance law, and on the subject of Copyright.

Gratifying progress has been made in the survey of the *Canada Pacific* Railway route. Measures have been taken to secure the early construction of the *Georgian Bay* branch, and to provide a connection with the eastern railway system. The report of the survey, of the road from *Lake Superior* to *Fort Garry*, which will be ready in a few days, will afford information upon which tenders may be invited for the construction of the eastern and western portions of that section, so as to reach the navigable waters of the interior.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

The accounts of the past year will be laid before you. The estimates for the present financial year will also be submitted; they will, I believe, be found to have been framed with every regard to economy, consistent with efficiency in the public service.