

S P E E C H.

"Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate ;

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

"In relieving you from your attendance in Parliament, I desire to offer my thanks for the care and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the performance of your important duties.

"The evidences of a recovery from the long-continued state of depression to which I alluded at the opening of the session^s are, I am glad to believe, steadily accumulating, and we may, I trust, look forward with some confidence to a prosperous year.

"The measures relating to Banking and the Currency, and to the amendment of the Tariff, with the other laws passed this session will, I hope, aid in the promotion of the anticipated prosperity.

"The expectations of a large immigration of valuable settlers into the North-West, in which I then ventured to indulge, appear, from the latest information, to be fully realized.

"The laws for the better organization of the North-West Territories, for the amendment of the Dominion Lands Act, and for the more

efficient management of Indian affairs, must tend greatly to the advantage of that vast and interesting region.

"The measure for the consolidation of the laws concerning the Inland Revenue and the other important Acts relating to the public interests seem well adapted to promote those interests.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

"I thank you, in Her Majesty's name, for the supplies you have so liberally voted.

"I trust that the vigorous efforts made to settle the Indian bands of the North-West on their Reserves will diminish, in the future, the calls made on the public Treasury for aid to save them from starvation.

"Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate ;

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

"The appropriations made will enable my Government steadily to prosecute the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and to hasten the completion of our Canal system.

"In bidding you farewell, I desire to express my earnest desire for your happiness and prosperity in your several homes."