

That we sympathize with His Excellency in the expression of his own deep feeling of gratification, in addressing for the first time the Parliamentary Representatives of the Dominion of *Canada*, that it has been his high privilege to occupy an official position, which has made it his duty to assist at every step taken in the creation of this Great Confederation.

That we thankfully receive His Excellency's congratulations on the Legislative sanction which has been given by the Imperial Parliament to the Act of Union, under the provisions of which we are now assembled, and which has laid the foundation of a new Nationality which we trust and believe with His Excellency, will, ere long, extend its bounds from the *Atlantic* to the *Pacific Ocean*.

That we feel great satisfaction in knowing that in the discussions which preceded the introduction of this measure in the Imperial Parliament, between the Members of Her Majesty's Government, on the one side, and the Delegates, who represented the Provinces now united, on the other,—it was apparent to all those who took part in those conferences, that, while Her Majesty's Ministers considered and pressed the principle of Union as a subject of great Imperial interest, they allowed the Provincial Representatives every freedom in arranging the mode in which that principle should be applied.

That we recognize with pleasure, that in a similar spirit of respect for our privileges, as a free and self-governing People, the Act of Union, as adopted by the Imperial Parliament, imposes the duty and confers upon us the right of reducing to practice the system of Government, which it has called into existence, of consolidating its institutions, harmonizing its administrative details, and of making such legislative provisions as will secure to a constitution, in some respects novel, a full, fair, and unprejudiced trial.

That we shall consider with respectful attention any measures which, with the design of effecting these objects, His Excellency shall cause to be laid before us, for the amendment and assimilation of the laws now existing in the several Provinces, relating to Currency, Customs, Excise and Revenue generally,—for the adoption of an uniform Postal System,—for the proper management and Maintenance of the Public Works and Properties of the Dominion,—for the adoption of a well-considered scheme of Militia Organization and Defence,—for the proper administration of Indian Affairs,—for the introduction of uniform Laws respecting Patents of Invention and Discovery,—the Naturalization of Aliens,—and the assimilation of the Criminal Law, and the Laws relating to Bankruptcy and Insolvency.

That we are happy to learn that a measure will also be submitted to us for the performance of the duty imposed upon *Canada*, under the terms of the Union Act, of immediately constructing the Intercolonial Railway.

That we feel, with His Excellency, that this great work will add a practical and physical connection to the Legislative bond which now unites the Provinces composing the Dominion; and that the liberality with which the guarantee for the cost of its construction was given by the Imperial Parliament, is a new proof of the hearty interest felt by the British people in our prosperity.

That we shall give our attentive consideration to any communication His Excellency may see fit to make to us on the important subject of Western Territorial extension, and the best means to be adopted for the protection and development of our Fisheries and Marine Interests.

That we shall respectfully consider any measures defining the privileges of Parliament, and for the establishment of uniform laws relating to Elections, and the trial of Controverted Elections, which His Excellency may cause to be laid before us.

That we learn, with great pleasure, that the general organization and efficiency of the Volunteers and Militia have been greatly improved within the last year, and that the whole Volunteer Force of *Ontario* and *Quebec* is already, by the liberality of the Imperial Government, armed with the breech-loading Rifle.

That we rejoice that His Excellency is able to congratulate us on the abundant harvest with which it has pleased Providence to bless the Country, and on the general prosperity of the Dominion.

That we are proud to know that our new nationality enters on its course backed by the moral support—the material aid—and the most ardent good wishes of the Mother Country, and that within our own borders peace, security and prosperity prevail; and that,