

that construction, and that the United States commissioners will not be willing to do us justice. Now I have no very great sympathy with that view of the case. I believe that the United States commissioners, no matter what they have said in the past, will feel the responsibility resting upon them as commissioners in the eyes of the world, and that the case, presented as it will be by a distinguished son of this country, will be made so clear that they will have to do conscientiously their duty, and in that way I believe Canada will receive justice at the hands of the commission. Even if the commissioners do not agree, we will be no worse off than we are to-day, but I believe that justice will be done and there is every prospect of this cause of disturbance between two friendly nations being removed.

As the census of 1901 has been taken, there comes the necessity of a redistribution of the representation in the House of Commons. We are told in the speech that a bill will be presented for that purpose. I have every confidence that the present government will do their duty in regard to the bill for the redistribution of the constituencies. I believe it will be a fair one. I believe that county boundaries, as far as it is possible to be done, will be observed. It is rather unreasonable to expect that in every case the county boundaries can be recognized. There are some counties where the population will be under; others where it will be over the unit, but this I do believe, that there will be no wrenching of certain sections of one county to attach to other sections of another county purely for partisan purposes. The government are strong enough, and I believe they are honest enough to do their duty to the whole people of the country irrespective of party in that respect, and that they will be willing so to minimize the dislocation of the county boundaries as to give the least possible disturbance to the people inhabiting these various sections.

I now come to the last clause of the speech. I find there are a number of bills and a number of subjects referred to, all of which will give room for more or less discussion. I am very glad to see there is to be an amendment to the patent law. The present law is not a good one. We have outgrown the old patent law. I believe

it was constructed originally for revenue purposes, but whether that be true or not, I know this, that it has given rise to an immense amount of litigation and loss to inventors and manufacturers and all who have had anything to do with it. Every application for a patent should be scrutinized by some expert, or board of experts, so as to know that a patent is a practical, genuine invention, not hitherto anticipated by any other inventor or applicant, and if the government bring in a law which embodies some ideas along that particular line, I believe that it will be a protection, and will save manufacturers and business men many times from serious loss and litigation.

And now gentlemen of the Senate, it has been a genuine pleasure to me to go over seriatim the many excellent clauses of His Excellency's speech. It would appear that the usual character of meagerness which has so often been chargeable to the government has been departed from very considerably on the present occasion. There would seem to be promise of enough legislation in this speech to keep a parliament occupied for very many months—at least as long as any members of parliament will desire to remain in Ottawa. I am sure, therefore, in concluding that I voice the sentiments of this House when I say that we, as honest and dutiful subjects, will give all these matters our earnest consideration and deliberation. I believe that this House will unite with the House of Commons in an earnest effort to help this great country on in her path and career of progress and prosperity. No interest, however, unimportant it may be, will fail to receive due consideration and attention at our hands. I have, therefore, very much pleasure in moving:—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to offer the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament, namely:—

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Gilbert John Elliott, Earl of Minto and Viscount Melgund of Melgund, County of Forfar, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron Minto, County of Roxburg, in the Peerage of Great Britain, Baronet of Nova Scotia, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, etc., etc., Governor General of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble