

and the successful exertions made by the Minister of Finance during the recess with a view of securing this important object. You will see that the depression under which we have laboured has not diminished our credit, but it has forcibly impressed on myself and my advisers the necessity of a strict and rigid economy. It is with this conviction that I ask you again to consider the propriety of making the requisite provision for the Queen's service.

The accounts for the several departments shall be placed in your hands with as little delay as possible.

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen :

It pleased Almighty God in the last autumn to bless our land with a plentiful harvest, and we see around us, at the present moment, the signs of a revival of commerce. I earnestly pray that these marks of returning prosperity may continue to increase, and that our people may have abundant cause to be thankful for the welfare of their country, and the maintenance of Law and Order.

It is at your hands that they expect such amendments and changes as may from time to time be needed, but I rejoice to think that few subjects of a broad and important character yet remain to be dealt with by immediate legislation.

I now leave you to the discharge of your legislative duties.

His Excellency then retired, and The Hon. Mr. Speaker took the chair.

Mr. WALKER came to the Table and took and subscribed the Oath prescribed by Law.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Vankoughnet, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Knowlton, it was resolved that the speech of His Excellency should be taken into consideration to-morrow.

ROYAL VISIT TO CANADA.

The Hon. Mr. VANKOUGHNET brought up a despatch received from Her Majesty's Secretary for the Colonies, in answer to the Address of both Houses, inviting Her Majesty to honor Her subjects with Her presence upon the occasion of the opening of the Victoria Bridge. The despatch was as follows :—

CANADA, }
No. 8. }

DOWNING STREET,
30th January, 1860.

SIR,

As the two Houses of the Canadian Legislature will soon re-assemble for the Despatch of Business, it becomes my duty to inform you that the Joint Address, to which they agreed at the close of their last Session, was duly presented to the Queen, and was most graciously received by Her Majesty.

2. In that Address, the Legislative Council and Commons of Canada, earnestly pray the Queen to receive in person the tribute of their unwavering attachment to Her rule, and to honor with Her presence Her subjects in British North America, upon the occasion of the opening of the great Victoria Bridge, accompanied by the Prince Consort, and such members of the Royal Family as it may please Her Majesty to attend Her on the occasion.

3. Her Majesty values deeply the attachment to Her Person, and the loyalty to Her Crown, which have induced this Address, and I am commanded to assure the Legislature, through you, how lively an interest is felt by the Queen in the growing prosperity of Canada, in the welfare and contentment of Her subjects in that important Province of Her Empire, and in the completion of the gigantic work which is a fitting type of the successful industry of the people.

It is, therefore, with sincere regret that Her Majesty is compelled to decline compliance with this loyal invitation. Her Majesty feels that Her duties at the Seat of the Empire prevent so long an absence, and at so great a distance as a visit to Canada would necessarily require.

Impressed, however, with an earnest desire to testify to the utmost of Her power. Her warm appreciation of the affectionate loyalty of Her Canadian subjects, the Queen commands me to express Her hope that when the time for the opening of the Bridge is fixed, it may be possible for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to attend the ceremony in Her Majesty's name, and to witness those gratifying scenes in which the Queen is Herself unable to participate.

The Queen trusts that nothing may interfere with this arrangement, for it is Her Majesty's sincere desire that the Young Prince, on whom the Crown of this Empire will devolve, may have the opportunity of visiting that portion of Her Dominions from which this Address has proceeded, and may become acquainted with a people, in whose rapid progress towards greatness, Her Majesty, in common with Her subjects in Great Britain, feels a lively and enduring sympathy.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant

NEWCASTLE.

Governor,

The Right Honorable

Sir EDMUND WALKER HEAD, Bart.,

&c., &c., &c.

The House adjourned:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

Quebec, Tuesday, Feby., 28.

Mr. SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

A Message was received from His Excellency the Governor General, requiring the attendance of the Members of this Hon. House in the Chamber of the Legislative Council.

The Members proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber. After a short absence, they returned.