

view of the legislation, I imagine the measures to be proposed are of considerable importance. The financial clause is not as *coulour de rose* as the beginning of the speech. We are told that the stagnation in trade has seriously affected the revenue, but we have the consolation of knowing it is only temporary, and that by due attention to economy the depression will be speedily removed. Whether the economies which are announced in this clause will affect the efficiency of the service or not, depends, of course, on the details, and we can only judge of that when we see them. I notice by the paragraph that it is proposed to curtail the expenditure in all branches of the Government. If so, there will be a most serious and extensive bill of economy. When we have these details we will be better able to judge the extent to which the economies are to be carried. I would deeply regret if this depression should induce the Government to impede or seriously obstruct or postpone the development of the country, as they believe that the depression is only temporary. We have already experienced some of the measures of economy. I presume that the abolition of the office of Agent-General is one of them. It is an economy which has been loudly called for in the country and has been at last completed. The Government deserve the credit of having stopped the leak, but at the same time they must remember they are chargeable with having made the auger-hole. At the time the Agent-General was appointed I think, from this side of the House, there were sundry warnings of what the result would be. In my place, standing where I do now, I predicted the disappearance of the Agent-General before long. He has gone, but I am not at all sure he has disappeared from motives of economy. We have it almost directly from him (because we see it in a Dundee newspaper with which he is connected) that it was the result of a diabolical plot of the Ultramontanes of Canada—that these Ultramontanes—who hate the introduction of Englishmen, Irishmen and Scotchmen if they are Protestants (and I am not sure

whether he says they would not object to them even if they were Catholics)—were resolved to have the Agent-General turned out of office, and although his hon. friend and my hon. friend the Premier stood by him as long as he could—and we all know how long he will stand by his friends when they are in the wrong—he was obliged by the Ultramontanes to sacrifice one friend and abolish the Agent-General of Canada. So while we must thank the Administration for this economy, we cannot at all applaud the motives to which their late employé attributes his removal. Another economy, I have no doubt, will be carried out, and if so, it will be in accordance with the suggestion of this side of the House. When the Bill for the inauguration of the North-West Government was proposed last Session, I said until there is a larger body of people to be ruled, the constitutional Governor of Manitoba might still be entrusted with the management of the North-West. As the constitutional Governor of Manitoba he has little to do, and he might very well have given his spare time—and he had plenty of it on his hands, and, as I understand, did not grumble at the labor—to the administration of the affairs of the North-West Territories. But my hon. friend the Premier, in his usual incisive way, said it was absolutely necessary that the Government should be established without delay, and stationed far away from Winnipeg and its influences. I was not convinced, but I was silenced, and the Bill passed; but we do not see that the Government has been established after all. I flatter myself in the calm consideration of the subject which my hon. friend gave it after the prorogation, and in his own chamber, that he began to feel there was no such imminent necessity as he at first thought for the immediate appointment of a second Governor. At all events no appointment has yet been made, and as we have no complaint from the North-West, and have saved a considerable amount from the delay, I presume the hon. gentleman will make the saving a permanent one by continuing the masterly inactivity which he has shown hitherto with respect to this Govern-