

deep, they laid them in privation and toil and difficulties. Why cannot their children, surrounded by plenty and in the midst of peace, carry on this good work? They will do it. They are prepared to do it. They have the courage of all people who are born in such a climate as ours, a climate that has produced the men who for ages and centuries have controlled the destinies of the world. I say these men have the pluck, the energy and the determination to carry on this great work so as to make this country the pride and glory of the Empire of which we are now an honoured part. Now, hon. gentlemen, I will not detain you longer, I apologize to you for having proceeded at such length. I have hastened through because my hon. friend who is to second this motion has engagements elsewhere and wants to go away, and I always endeavour to accommodate my personal friends as far as I can. I apologize to you, as I have said before, for having detained you. I thank you most sincerely for having listened to me so long and patiently. If I have said anything that is out of the true lines of speech-making in this House, I beg to apologize.

Hon. Mr. DESJARDINS (In French)--- I wish, in addressing this honourable House for the first time, to express to you my appreciation of the honour which has been accorded me, not only in appointing me a member of the first legislative body in the Dominion, but in having for associates men who occupy such prominent positions in the public life of this country. I regret the absence of our late Premier, who displayed such tact and ability at all times, and trust that he may soon be restored to health and resume his place amongst us. I feel it a privilege to follow in this honourable House a leader with whom I was associated so many years in another place. He brings to this House a mine of information and the ready eloquence which distinguished him in the other chamber. I am sure he will not lose in the Senate any of the popularity, the vigour and the energy which he displayed as a leader elsewhere. Beside the hon. leader we have in this Chamber, I am happy to say, a Minister who speaks our language. Since Confederation it was the good fortune of the province of Quebec to have in the Senate at all times until 1878 on the Treasury benches a representative of their race and language. In the Minister of Agriculture we have a

gentleman who represents perfectly the aspirations of the majority in the province of Quebec, and one who will give expression to our desire that justice shall be done to the inhabitants of the Dominion, irrespective of creed or origin. The House may feel assured that these aspirations will not conflict with the rights and privileges of any portion of our people. His Excellency congratulates Parliament on the prosperous condition of the country. That prosperity is evidenced by the increased imports and exports, all showing the purchasing power of our population. This pleasant intimation of His Excellency, in his gracious speech, is confirmed by the published returns of the commerce of the country, and there is evidence on every side that the judicious policy of the Government has produced prosperity throughout the Dominion. We have evidence of the vigour and energy of the Government in their efforts to open up new markets for the products of Canada; and in securing a rapid line of steamers to ply between our ports and the ports of Great Britain and France, and also in the efforts they have made through the High Commissioner at London and our representative at Paris to obtain for Canada the advantage of the "favoured nations clause" which the mother country has made in her treaties with foreign nations. We have every reason to hope that these efforts on the part of Canada will result in opening up new markets and extending our trade relations so that we can find ready sale for the produce of our fields, our mines and our forests. His Excellency also expressed his gratification to hear that in Manitoba and the North-west Territories there has been an encouraging increased immigration and settlement. Canada has spent enormous sums of money in opening up these western territories; we have made great sacrifices to provide these territories with railway communication, and to attract to them a tide of immigration, but these generous measures on the part of the central Government have been paralyzed by the action of the local authorities in denying equal justice and equal treatment to all classes of the people. I believe I express the opinion of the vast majority in this country when I say that prosperity can only be maintained and progress promoted by doing even-handed justice to all classes of the community. Many of us who live in the eastern provinces are convinced