

commercial intercourse between each other. The paragraph which refers to the effect of the new tariff will recall to the minds of hon. gentlemen the problem which was presented to them last session—how can a tariff be protective and at the same time be a revenue tariff? We were told by the opponents of the National Policy that there was an antagonism between the two; that if the tariff was protective it could not yield a revenue, and if a revenue tariff, then it could not protect. That was a problem which troubled some of us considerably, but His Excellency informs us that it is in a way of satisfactory solution. He tells us that it is augmenting the revenue, and protecting our industries, and it is, therefore, perfectly successful. We shall be pleased to consider the measures relating to the Civil Service, the Inland Revenue Laws, the Indians and other subjects mentioned in the next paragraph. This is a young country, and we must be guided largely by experience in the administration of our public affairs. I notice that there is a paragraph promising legislation on our banking system. A monetary system having a solid basis is the principal foundation of a country's prosperity. The question is one of great importance and the measure will be watched for with interest. The measure relating to bankruptcy is also looked for by the public. No doubt the debates which took place upon this subject last session will lead to effective legislation, which will put an end to the disastrous effects of the present law. I now come to the last, and, I may say, the most important paragraph of His Excellency's Speech. It reads as follows:

"The increasing foreign trade of Canada and the prospect that Her Majesty's Government will enter, ere long, into negotiations with foreign nations on the subject of their trade and commercial relations demand our closest attention and watchfulness, while the rapid development of the Dominion is continually giving rise to important matters requiring the support and action of the Imperial Government. With the concurrence of Her Majesty, I therefore recommend you to sanction the appointment of a permanent representative of Canada in London to guard her various interests."

This declaration from His Excellency, and the good reasons we have to believe that our expectations will not be deceptive, especially when one of our ablest

statesmen is appointed to represent us at the seat of the Imperial Government, dispose, at least to a certain extent, for the present, of the questions of "emancipation and annexation." I have no doubt that, owing to the intelligent exertions of our Government in that direction, England will either obtain for us, from foreign countries, the privilege of participating in the benefits of her treaties of commerce, or, we will be put in such an independent position as to be able to negotiate for ourselves, and establish directly our commercial relations with foreign nations of the whole world. A very few voices have been, it is true, raised in the Province to which I belong against British connection. A few have seemed impatient to throw off our allegiance to Great Britain. To the existing state of affairs they could have only two grounds of objection: First, our exclusion from the benefit of the treaties regulating the commercial intercourse between England and other countries; and second, the extravagant expenses in which this Dominion might be involved in maintaining monarchical institutions on this continent. The Speech from the Throne disposes of the first objection. There is good reason to hope that Canada will more easily succeed in establishing her commercial relations with the concurrence and assistance of England than if left alone. Instead of being left abruptly to our own resources, with the additional burden of the necessary expenses occasioned by independence, we will be gradually emancipated commercially while secured by the protection of England, and will maintain our political connection with the Empire to the mutual benefit of both countries. As to the second objection, it is true that in this free land of America, we are inclined to believe that there is no reason why monarchical institutions should exist and that in such a new country as ours, without great wealth, without territorial and hereditary aristocracy it may be ruinous to incur the expenses of a court, yet this objection has no foundation when we remember that, in our days, it is not always the princes who furnish examples of ruinous extravagance and luxury. Is it not a fact that some presidents of republics exhibit to the world more princely pomp

*Hon. Mr. Trudel.*