

imposes the duty, and confers upon us the right of redoubling to practice the system of Government which it has called into existence, of consolidating its institutions, harmonizing its administrative details, and of making such Legislative provisions as will secure to a Constitution—in some respects novel—a full, fair, and unprejudiced trial.

We shall consider, with respectful attention, any measures which, with the design of effecting these objects, Your Excellency shall cause to be laid before us, for the amendment and assimilation of the Laws now existing in the several Provinces, relating to Currency, Customs, Excise, and Revenue generally; for the adoption of a uniform Postal System; for the proper management and maintenance of the Public Works and Properties of the Dominion; for the adoption of a well-considered scheme of Militia Organization and Defence; for the proper administration of Indian affairs; for the introduction of uniform Laws respecting Patents of Invention and Discovery; the Naturalization of Aliens; and the assimilation of the Criminal Law and the Laws relating to Bankruptcy and Insolvency.

We are happy to learn that a measure will also be submitted to us for the performance of the duty imposed upon *Canada*, under the terms of the Union Act, of immediately constructing the Intercolonial Railway.

We feel, with Your Excellency, that this great work will add a practical and physical connection to the Legislative bond which now unites the Provinces composing the Dominion, and that the liberality with which the guarantee for the cost of its construction was given by the Imperial Parliament is a new proof of the hearty interest felt by the British people in our prosperity.

We shall give our attentive consideration to any communication Your Excellency may see fit to make to us on the important subject of Western Territorial extension, and the best means to be adopted for the protection and development of our Fisheries and Marine Interests.

We shall respectfully consider any measures defining the privileges of Parliament, and for the establishment of uniform laws relating to Elections, and the trial of Controverted Elections, which Your Excellency may cause to be laid before us.

We are aware that the circumstances under which the Act of Union came into operation, rendered it impossible to obtain the assent of the Legislature to the expenditure necessary for carrying on the ordinary business of the Government, and that the expenditure since the first of July has therefore necessarily been incurred on the responsibility of the Ministers of the Crown.

We thank Your Excellency for informing us that the details of that expenditure will be laid before us, and submitted for our sanction.

The Estimates for the current and succeeding Financial Year, which Your Excellency has directed to be laid before us, will receive our attentive consideration, and we feel certain that we shall find that they have been framed with all the attention to economy, which is compatible with the maintenance of efficiency in the different branches of the Public Service.

We learn with great pleasure that the general organization and efficiency of the Volunteers and Militia have been greatly improved within the last year, and that the whole Volunteer Force of *Ontario* and *Quebec* is already, by the liberality of the Imperial Government, armed with the breech-loading Rifle.

We rejoice that Your Excellency is able to congratulate us on the abundant harvest with which it has pleased Providence to bless the country, and on the general prosperity of the Dominion.

We are proud to know that our new Nationality enters on its course backed by the moral support, the material aid, and the most ardent good wishes of the Mother Country, and that within our own borders, peace, security and prosperity prevail; and, with Your Excellency, we fervently pray that our aspirations may be directed to such high and patriotic objects, and that we may be inspired with such a spirit of moderation and wisdom as will cause us to render the great work of Union which has been achieved, a blessing to ourselves and our posterity, and a fresh starting point in the moral, political, and material advancement of the people of *Canada*.

The said Address being read a second time, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be engrossed.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency, the Governor General, by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Privy Council.