

quick intelligence had discerned and discovered in that scion of a proud aristocracy one who understood all the phases of modern democracy more than anyone of his class, unless in that respect the palm be given to the noble lady who also bears the name of Aberdeen. The hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. Lachapelle) referred at some length to the success of Canada at the World's Fair. Well, in that respect, I re-echo every word that was said by my hon. friend. The success of Canada at the World's Fair was such as to cheer all Canadian hearts, especially of those who believe that agriculture is the art of arts and the science of all sciences, for, had it not been for the agricultural exhibits, I am not aware that Canada would have had any special cause for enthusiasm in regard to successes won there. The farmers took the lion's share of all the awards carried away by Canada, and the World's Fair has shown that, though the farmers of Canada are not a pampered class and have received nothing from the Government, but, on the contrary, are burdened and hampered by the Government, still it is to the farmers of Canada we must look for the development of this Dominion. My hon. friend from Hochelaga (Mr. Lachapelle) said he was sure that this time the Government would do something for the protection of our farmers. Why, Mr. Speaker, I was under the impression that the Government have always pretended that they have done a good deal for the farmers of Canada. My hon. friend is not satisfied: he hopes and believes, however, that the Government will do something now. Well, he has more hope and faith in the Government than I have. But, Sir, having gone that far with my hon. friend from Ottawa, (Sir James Grant) and with my hon. friend from Hochelaga (Mr. Lachapelle) I am sorry to say to them that I can go no further. Already, in this discussion, we have come to the parting of the waves, and it is with regret I see them following in the errors of their ways. I regret it all the more, I am sure, because I cannot take my share of the flowers, though they were flowers of rhetoric, with which the hon. member for Ottawa strewed the ground on which he was treading. My hon. friend is endowed with a good deal of enthusiasm, for without it he would not have been able to produce such a profusion of blossoms as he obtained from the sandy, rocky and barren ground to be found within the four corners of the Speech from the Throne. He is endowed with a good deal of enthusiasm, I say. In all the range of Canadian politics, he has not seen anything which did not afford matter for admiration and commendation. If there was anything in the policy of the Government which did not altogether meet with his approval, he kept it concealed in his breast. For instance, the hon. gentleman has not said a word, nor did the hon. member for Hochelaga, as to the late and

inconvenient season at which Parliament has been called. I am sure that this is a matter which the hon. gentleman cannot approve. It has been the unwritten law of Canada for a great many years past, that Parliament should be summoned at an early period in the year, at the latest, towards the end of January. The reason is obvious. In this country we have no privileged class. All the members of this House, with scarcely an exception, are engaged in the ordinary avocations of life, and it is an object of paramount necessity that after having discharged their duties to the country, they should be able to go back to their ordinary business pursuits, about the opening of the busy season. In years past, I say, it was the unwritten law of Canada: still, this year the Government have departed from that law. They waited, and waited, and waited, until the opening of the busy season was in sight, before summoning Parliament, and as to this, not a word of explanation has been offered. Why, we might have expected, at all events, that the gods who rule over our destinies would have come down from the sphere which they occupy in majesty, and given us a word of explanation. At least, I would have expected that if they would not take us into their confidence, they would have taken into their confidence the hon. member for Ottawa, who might I submit to my hon. friend from Ottawa (Sir James Grant), as well as to his hon. friends around him, that under existing circumstances the Government have been sadly remiss in their duty in not summoning Parliament unless they can bring forth some cogent and strong reason to excuse their negligence. Unless the Government are able to bring up some reason of much convenience to themselves, to excuse the inconvenience to Parliament, I say they are remiss in their duty. Some reason there must have been, and what was it? I am told that the Government expect to rush the session. Well, Sir, no one expects to remain here for a very long time, but at all events the session must last the time necessary to carry on and discuss the business of the nation. That is the work for which we are here. There is another reason which has been hinted. It has been stated in the press that the Government were waiting to see what development would be made in the revision of the tariff on the other side. It has been stated that they were looking to Washington. But, Sir, is that possible? Why looking to Washington? How are the mighty fallen; how are the pure fallen from grace, I ask? How are the superloyal fallen down from their own high declarations of superior allegiance which they used to make in former times? I believe after all that there is some truth in that statement. I believe that was the true reason indeed that Parliament was not summoned, because they wanted to so shape events by looking to Washington to see what