

We are grateful for Your Excellency's expression of pleasure at again availing yourself of our advice in carrying on the Government, and we trust with Your Excellency that there will be found in the magnificent Buildings erected in the City chosen by Her Majesty as the Seat of Government, increased facilities for the despatch of public business, while they will prove adequate to the great future of this Country.

We thank Your Excellency for having directed to be laid before us the proceedings of the Council of Trade, including representatives from the different Provinces of *British North America*, which Your Excellency has informed us that you convened immediately after the termination of the last Session of Parliament, by instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies; and also the papers relating to the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty with the *United States of America*, and to the negotiations on the subject of our Commercial relations with that Country.

We agree with Your Excellency that it has now become still more imperative to open, by an extension of the trade of the Country with other Nations, new Markets for the varied products of our industry.

We will give our best attention to the Report which Your Excellency has been pleased to announce your intention of communicating to Parliament as soon as received from the Deputation representing the Colonies of *British North America*, which, in consequence of the notice for the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, Your Excellency deemed it needful, with the assent and approbation of Her Majesty's Government, to send during the winter, to the *West Indies* and *Brazil*, to ascertain the best means of developing and extending commercial relations with those Countries.

It has been with great pleasure that this House has learned that the threats and preparations for attack on *Canada* constantly and openly made by a body organized in the *United States of America*, and known as "Fenians," having compelled Your Excellency since Parliament rose, by the advice of Your Ministers, to call out for active service, a large portion of the Volunteer Militia Force of the Province, the spirit displayed by the people, and that their ready response to Your Excellency's Proclamation, have received the well-merited approval of Her Majesty's Government.

We agree with Your Excellency, that the events which have occurred within the last few days, afford additional proofs of the necessity for the precautionary measures adopted.

We rejoice with Your Excellency that the Province, having been invaded by a lawless band of Marauders, they were promptly confronted, and within twenty-four hours compelled to make a precipitate retreat.

We unite with Your Excellency in deploring the loss of life and the sufferings which have been entailed upon the gallant body of the Canadian Volunteers in the engagement which took place in repelling so promptly the Invaders who had attacked the country; and we shall not omit to alleviate, as far as may be in our power, the miseries so wantonly inflicted on many families.—But while grieving for their individual loss, it is with a feeling of pride that this House accepts Your Excellency's congratulations to the country on the fact that the first note of danger having shewn that *Canada* possesses in her Volunteers a body of men ready to peril their lives in defence of their Queen and Country.

We concur with Your Excellency in the belief that the entire people have been thoroughly aroused by recent occurrences; and that it must now be apparent to all, that the whole resources of the country, both in men and means, will at any moment be cheerfully given in repelling any invasion of their homes.

We are highly gratified at being informed that, in the measures of defence which Your Excellency has been called upon to take, you have received the unremitting support of the Lieutenant General Commanding, and of Admiral Sir *James Hope*; and we assure Your Excellency that it is to this House, as well as to you, a source of unfeigned pleasure to acknowledge the gallant devotion displayed by the officers and men of Her Majesty's Military and Naval forces in *Canada*.

We rejoice with Your Excellency that the President of the *United States* has issued a Proclamation declaring that serious infractions of the laws of that country have been, and are being committed, by evil disposed persons, within the Territory and Jurisdiction of the *United States*, against the British Possessions in *North America*, and requiring all officers of his Government to exert every effort for their repression; and we unite with