

trading, the general condition of the Dominion is such as to justify Your Excellency in congratulating us upon its prosperity.

We are much pleased at hearing from Your Excellency of the marked success attained by *Canada* at the International Fishery Exhibition in *London*. It is very gratifying to us, and has, we doubt not, been of great service in showing to the world the wealth of our fisheries and the extent of our marine industries and resources.

We are glad to be informed that the Commissioners appointed by Your Excellency's predecessor for the purpose of consolidating the Statutes affecting the Dominion, have pursued their task with diligence, that Your Excellency is enabled to lay before us for examination about sixty chapters of the proposed consolidation, that the remainder of the work will be prepared, and that the whole of it will be revised during the present year, so that the final report will be ready at our next Session for our approval.

We beg leave to thank Your Excellency for the expression of gladness with which Your Excellency has informed us that the number of immigrants to *Canada* during the past season has been greater than in any previous year, and we highly appreciate Your Excellency's opinion that this is a proof that the better *Canada* is known the more it is valued by those seeking a home in the new world. We are also pleased to be informed that arrangements are in progress to diminish the cost of inland transport, and that Your Excellency has reason to believe that the result will be a steady increase of valuable settlers, in the future.

We are glad to learn from Your Excellency that during the recess negotiations were resumed with *British Columbia* in regard to several matters upon which differences had for some time existed between the two Governments; that one of Your Excellency's ministers visited that Province last summer on a special mission, with a view to the adjustment of all questions in controversy and that his efforts have happily been successful. We trust that we shall be able to sanction the arrangements then made, and that by our so doing, all occasions of dispute will have been removed, and the most cordial relations established between the Dominion and Provincial Governments. The papers which Your Excellency has been pleased to say will be laid before us and the measures enabling Your Excellency to give effect to the agreement, will not fail to receive from us the consideration Your Excellency has invited.

We hear with interest that the rapid increase of population in the North-West renders some amendments in the North-West Territories Act expedient. Our attention, which Your Excellency has been pleased to say will be called to this important matter, shall be given thereto.

We are much gratified to be informed that the progress of the Indians in *Manitoba* and the North West during last year has been on the whole satisfactory and that the Bands included in the several Treaties have for the most part betaken themselves to their reserves. The Bill for the further promotion of their interests which Your Excellency has informed us will be submitted to us, as well as the measures applicable to the whole Dominion for the purpose of encouraging the more advanced Indian communities to assume the responsibilities of self-government, shall receive our most attentive consideration.

Your Excellency has been pleased to inform us that the Bill laid before us last Session for the representation of the people in Parliament and the assimilation of the electoral franchises existing in the several Provinces, has now been before the country for a year and that the measure will be re-introduced. Our attention, to which Your Excellency has commended it, shall be cheerfully given to this measure.

We respectfully note that Your Excellency would also urge upon us the expediency of providing for the regulation of factory labor and the protection of the workingman and his family, and that the measure submitted last Session with some amendments will be laid before us. This important subject shall receive our most careful consideration.

It is with the greatest gratification we hear from Your Excellency that the rapid progress of the *Canadian Pacific* Railway has been maintained throughout the