

DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SENATE OF CANADA,

IN THE

FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PARLIAMENT OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA WHICH WAS CALLED TO MEET, FOR THE DESPATCH OF BUSINESS, ON THURSDAY, THE 11TH APRIL, A.D., 1872, IN THE 35TH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, April 11, 1872.

This day, at three o'clock, P. M., His Excellency the Governor General proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Senate, in the Parliament Buildings, and took his seat upon the Throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, His Excellency was pleased to open the Fifth Session of the First Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, with the following Speech from the Throne:

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons.

The auspicious recovery which the mercy of Providence vouchsafed from the well nigh mortal illness of the Prince of Wales, called forth a universal expression of joy

and thankfulness throughout the Empire. All classes of the people testified their deep sense of relief from the anxieties of a long and painful suspense by joining their beloved Queen in a public Thanksgiving which proved in vastness of attendance and unanimity of feeling the grandest and most impressive ceremony ever witnessed in the British Capital.

I invite you to follow the good example on the fifteenth day of this month.

It was thought advisable to defer the solemnity until after the meeting of Parliament, and I feel assured that the Members of the two Houses, as well as all Her Majesty's faithful subjects throughout the Dominion will be anxious to unite in celebrating the occasion with all becoming observance and loyal alacrity.

Your Meeting has itself been postponed to a later season than usual, upon considerations of Imperial as well as Colonial interest, and at the instance of Her Majesty's Government.