

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

FRIDAY, 9th February, 1883.

The SPEAKER Elect having taken the Chair,

PRAYERS.

A Message was delivered by René Edouard Kimber, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod :

MR. SPEAKER,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Senate Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker Elect, with the House went up to the Senate Chamber ;

Then the HONORABLE GEORGE AIREY KIRKPATRICK, SPEAKER ELECT, said :

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

The House of Commons have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Commons, whose servant I am, and who through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and Country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of Speech in their Debates, access to Your Excellency's person at all reasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favorable consideration.

The Honorable the SPEAKER of the Senate then said :

MR. SPEAKER,

I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to Her Majesty's Person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow, their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you, that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all reasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favorable construction.

Then His Excellency the GOVERNOR GENERAL was pleased to open Parliament by a Speech from the Throne.

And the House being returned,

MR. SPEAKER. I have the honor to state that the House having attended on His Excellency the Governor General in the Senate Chamber, I informed His Excellency that the choice of Speaker had fallen on me, and, in your names and on your behalf, I made the usual claim for your privileges, which His Excellency was pleased to confirm to you.

CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House that the Clerk of the House had received from the Hon. Mr. Justice Weldon, one of the Judges selected for the trial of Election Petitions, pursuant to The Dominion Controverted Elections Act, 1874, Certificate and Report in the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of King's, N.B., declaring the Election of G. E. Foster, Esq., null and void.

Also, Certificate and Report from the Hon. Mr. Justice Mathieu, in the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of Joliette, declaring the Election of E. Guibault, Esq., null and void.

He also informed the House, that in conformity with the Act 37 Victoria, Chapter 10, Sections 5 and 36, the Clerk of the House had issued his Warrants to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out new Writs of Election for the said Electoral Districts, respectively.

MR. SPEAKER further informed the House that the Clerk of the House had received from the Hon. Mr. Justice Chag-

non, one of the Judges selected for the trial of Election Petitions, pursuant to The Dominion Controverted Elections Act, 1874, Certificate and Report in the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of Napierville, declaring M. Catudal, Esq., duly elected.

Also, Certificate and Report from the Hon. Mr. Justice Mathieu, in the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of Terrobonne, declaring the Hon. J. Chapleau duly elected.

Also, Certificate and Report from the Hon. Mr. Justice Patterson, in the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of the South Riding of Norfolk, declaring J. Jackson, Esq., duly elected.

Also, Copy of Certificate and Report in the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of Verchères, declaring the Hon. F. Geoffrion duly elected.

NEW MEMBERS.

MR. SPEAKER further informed the House, that the Clerk of the House had received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Certificates of the Election and Return of the following members, viz:—

Of the Hon. JOSEPH ADOLPHE CHAPLEAU, for the Electoral District of Terrebonne;
Of FLAVIEN DUPONT, Esq., for the Electoral District of Bagot ;
Of EDWARD GUILBAULT, Esq., for the Electoral District of Joliette ;
Of GEORGE R. L. G. H. S. DE BEAUJEU, Esq., for the Electoral District of Soulanges ; and
Of GEORGE E. FOSTER, Esq., for the Electoral District of King's, New Brunswick.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD introduced Bill (No. 1) respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.

Bill read the first time.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

MR. SPEAKER. I have the honor to inform this House that when the House attended His Excellency the Governor General this day, in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of Parliament, and, to prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy of the Speech, which is as follows:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

It is my pleasing duty, on the opening of a new Parliament, to congratulate you on the auspicious circumstances under which you will begin your labors.

Canada is in the enjoyment of peace and prosperity, and all her industries, agricultural, manufacturing and commercial, are in a healthy and improving condition.

Following the example of my distinguished predecessor, I paid a visit of some length to British Columbia last season. The great natural resources of that Province promise that as soon as the Pacific Railway is completed, an impulse to its prosperity, commensurate with the progress made elsewhere, will be assured. Meanwhile, the disposal of the lands set aside in aid of the Railway to actual settlers will add to the importance and wealth of the Province.

While passing through the United States I was rejoiced to observe many evidences of regard for the Empire of which this country forms so large a portion. May this friendship, which is so fully returned by us, be as enduring as it is natural and advantageous to the mutual interests of both great nations.

The steady flow of settlers into Manitoba and the North-West Territories last year, and the assurances received of an increased immigration during the coming season, promise well for the early development of those fertile and salubrious regions.