

I am deeply touched by this memorable tribute to the life and work of my husband. Testimony such as this is indeed an alleviation of my great sorrow, and I beg that you will convey to The House my lasting sense of gratitude for their Resolution and for the generous speeches by which it was supported.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your faithful servant,

CATHERINE GLADSTONE.

The Honourable the Speaker,
of the Commons of Canada.

Robert Holmes, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of the West Riding of the County of Huron; Thomas George Johnston, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of the West Riding of the County of Lambton; Leighton Goldie McCarthy, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of the North Riding of the County of Simcoe; John Howatt Bell, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of Prince (East) Prince Edward Island; Joseph Edmond Marcil, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of Bagot; and Pierre Raymond Léonard Martineau, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of Montmagny, having previously taken the Oath according to Law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took their seats in the House.

Ordered, That Sir Wilfrid Laurier have leave to bring in a Bill respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read the first time.

Mr. Speaker reported, That when The House did attend His Excellency the Governor General this day in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy, which he read to The House, as followeth:—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

In meeting you for the first time since entering upon my duties, as the representative of Her Majesty in this Dominion, it affords me great pleasure to be able to congratulate you on the large degree of prosperity which the people of Canada at present enjoy, as evidenced by the expansion of trade and commerce, the flourishing condition of the public revenues, and the increased number of immigrants who have become permanent settlers amongst us. To these evidences may be added another which is even more gratifying,—the almost total cessation of the considerable exodus of our population which at one time was a regrettable feature of our affairs.

The negotiations which were set on foot during the recess between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States in reference to the settlement of certain questions in dispute between Canada and the latter country were, I grieve to say, greatly delayed by the illness and subsequent death of two of the most eminent members of the Commission appointed for that purpose. Considerable progress had been made on several of the subjects submitted, but a serious disagreement arose between Her Majesty's Commissioners and the Commissioners of the United States on the question of the delimitation of the Boundary between Canada and Alaska; the question was referred by the Commissioners to their respective Governments, the Commission being adjourned to the Second day of August next, in the hope that, in the meantime, the difficulty might be overcome.

In compliance with the Act passed last Session, a Plebiscite was held on the question of prohibition; the official figures of the vote will be placed before you.