

tion of a systematic Emigration from *Europe* to the *North-West Territories*, can be satisfactorily made, until the policy of Parliament with respect to the Railway has been decided.

We are pleased to know that steady progress has been made in the construction of those portions of the Railway now under contract, and that two additional sections have been recently opened for traffic, one from *Winnipeg* to *Portage la Prairie*, the other from *Cross Lake* to *Keewatin*; so that there are now in all 264 miles in operation.

We are glad to learn that the measures adopted to promote economy in the working of the Intercolonial and *Prince Edward Island* Railways have resulted in a large reduction of the difference between Revenue and Expenditure, and that the steadily increasing traffic warrants the expectation that during the current year these Railways will be self-sustaining.

We are gratified to be informed by Your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government has generously presented to *Canada*, for training school purposes, the steam corvette *Charybdis* lately returned from service in the Chinese Seas, and that the correspondence on this subject will be laid before us.

We receive with much interest the intimation that Your Excellency has thought it well, in consideration of the increasing duties thrown by the development of the country upon the Civil Service, and for the more efficient organization of such Service, to issue a Royal Commission to examine and report on the whole question, and that Your Excellency believes that the Report of the Commissioners will be ready to be laid before us at an early day; our earnest consideration shall be given to such Report and to the whole subject of Civil Service Reform.

We shall give our best attention to the measure for the enlargement of the boundaries of the Province of *Manitoba*, which Your Excellency is pleased to say, will be submitted to us.

We share Your Excellency's regret that the entire failure of the usual food supply of the Indians in the *North-West*, to which You called our attention last Session, has continued during the present season, and has involved the necessity of a large expenditure in order to save them from absolute starvation. We are glad to learn that several of the Bands have, however, already applied themselves to the cultivation of their Reserves and the care of their cattle, and that no effort will be spared to induce the whole of the aboriginal population to betake themselves to agricultural pursuits.

We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that the Accounts of the last, and the Estimates for the ensuing year, will be laid before us; and we trust that the Estimates will be found to have been prepared with due regard to economy and the efficiency of the Public Service.

It will be satisfactory to us to find that the existing Tariff has not only promoted the manufactures and other products of the country, but has so far increased the Revenues of the Dominion as to place it beyond doubt that the receipts of the current fiscal year will be in excess of the expenditures chargeable to Consolidated Revenue.

We shall respectfully receive and consider such measures of importance as Your Excellency may cause to be submitted to us, including any Bills for the winding up of Insolvent Banks and Incorporated Companies, for the amendment of the Railway Act of 1879, for the revision and consolidation of the Laws relating to Government Railways, and for the improvement, in several respects, of the Criminal Law.

We are pleased to be informed that there are now good hopes of our being able to place the naturalization of German settlers on a more satisfactory footing; and any measure on the subject which may be submitted to us, with all the papers connected with the matter, shall receive our willing consideration.

Your Excellency may rest assured that our best attention will be given to the subjects You have mentioned, as well as to everything that affects the well-being and good government of the Dominion.