

incidents of that trade in so far as this country is concerned. The evidence elicited on this enquiry will be laid before you. While I am glad to learn that our shipping is free from reproach in that regard, your attention will be invited to a measure which will remove all reasonable apprehensions of abuses arising in the future in connection with so important a branch of our commerce.

The early coming into force of the Imperial Statute relating to the Vice-Admiralty Courts of the Empire has made it necessary to revise the laws in force in Canada respecting our courts of maritime jurisdiction, and a measure will therefore be laid before you designed to reorganize those tribunals.

A Code of the Criminal Law has been prepared in order that that branch of our jurisprudence may be simplified and improved, to which your best attention is invited.

Measures relating to the Foreshores of the Dominion and to the obstruction of its navigable waters, will be submitted to you, and you will also be asked to consider amendments to the Acts relating to the North-West Territories, to the Exchequer Court Act, and to the Acts relating to Trade Marks.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

The Accounts for the past year will be submitted to you. The Revenue, after providing for the services to which you appropriated it, has left a surplus for the works which you designed to be carried on by Capital expenditure.

The Estimates for the coming year will be laid before you at an early date.

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I pray that in the consideration of these matters, and in the performance of all the labours which will devolve on you, your deliberations may be Divinely aided, and that your wisdom and patriotism may enlarge the prosperity of the Dominion, and promote in every way the well-being of its people.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The Honourable Mr. Abbott presented to the House, a Bill intituled: "An Act relating to Railways."

The said Bill was read for the first time.

The Honourable the Speaker reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same was then read by the Clerk.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. Abbott, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Smith, it was

Ordered, That the House do take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General, to-morrow.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. Abbott, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Smith, it was

Ordered, That all the Members present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of this House and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in this House, when and as often as they please.

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the House,—The Report of the Joint Librarians on the state of the Library of Parliament, for the year 1890.

The same was then read by the Clerk, as follows:—

#### TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.

The Joint Librarians of Parliament have the honour to report as follows for the year 1890-91.

Several important additions have been made to the section of old works on Canada.