

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to thank His Excellency for His Gracious Speech at the opening of the present Session.

*Resolved*, That the said Resolution be referred to a Select Committee composed of the Honorable Sir *John A. Macdonald*, the Honorable Sir *George E. Cartier*, Messieurs *Lacerte* and *Kirkpatrick*, to prepare and report the draft of an Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of Parliament, in conformity to the said Resolution.

The Honorable Sir *John Macdonald* reported from the Select Committee appointed to draw up an Address to His Excellency the Governor General, That they had drawn up an Address accordingly, and the same was read, as followeth :—

To His Excellency, the Right Honorable *John Baron Lisgar*, of *Lisgar* and *Bailieborough*, in the County of *Cavan*, *Ireland*, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and a Baronet, one of the Most Honorable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint *Michael* and Saint *George*, Governor General of *Canada*, and Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of *Prince Edward*.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of *Canada*, in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for Your Gracious Speech at the opening of the present Session of Parliament.

We are grateful to Your Excellency for the expression of Your satisfaction in meeting us at this, the usual and most convenient season of the year, and under the present auspicious circumstances of the Country.

We regret with Your Excellency that the hope Your Excellency was sanguine enough to express at the close of the last Session, that no further attempt would be made to disturb our frontier, was doomed to early disappointment, and that the Session had scarcely closed when lawless bands assembled within the United States in great numbers, and renewed the menace of invasion. But we are proud to know that when they ventured to cross the border at two points they were promptly met and repelled, that so complete and humiliating was the repulse, that the invaders lost heart and hope, threw away quantities of arms, and fell back to encumber the villages in their rear, with their starving and demoralized masses, that our Militia rallied at the first call to arms with praiseworthy alacrity, that the spirit which pervades the country, swelled their numbers with volunteers from all quarters, and that the gallantry displayed and the success achieved, have been duly recognized by the highest Military authority, and honored, in gratifying terms of appreciation, by Her Most Gracious Majesty. We are aware that in maintaining the Militia on active duty, the Government must have incurred an outlay to a considerable amount beyond what was provided by the votes of last Session. We shall carefully consider the accounts of the entire expenditure for the defence of the frontier, which will be laid before us, and we trust that we shall find ourselves justified in passing a Bill to indemnify the Government.

We rejoice to be informed that Your Excellency's anticipations of success in regard to the Act passed for the Government of *Manitoba*, and the North West Territories, and in regard to the Military Expedition, which it was necessary to despatch, have been fortunately realized; that the troops surmounted the difficulties of the long and toilsome route with endurance and intelligence; that they encountered no armed opposition; that their arrival at the *Red River* was cordially welcomed by the inhabitants; and that the people of the new Province have, under the Constitution accorded to them last year, assumed all the duties of self-government, and that every appearance warrants the hope that they are entering steadily upon a career of peace and prosperity.