

ment to press for the most vigorous prosecution of the Canadian Pacific Railway and to meet the reasonable expectations of British Columbia. That we are sensible that, in carrying out this intention, due regard must be had to the financial position of the country, and that we are happy to know that communication by rail has been effected between Manitoba and the United States system of railways, by the junction, at St. Vincent, of the Pembina Branch of our railway, with the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, and to learn that the portion of the main line which extends from English River to Keewatin is now being placed under contract, and will be energetically pushed to completion in order to secure, as rapidly as is possible, the connection between Lake Superior and the great North-West.

“Any Bill for the amendment and consolidation of the Acts relating to Stamps which may be submitted for our consideration, as well as any measure amending the Act relating to Weights and Measures, shall receive our best attention.

“We are aware that the decennial census must be taken in 1881, and we agree with Your Excellency in thinking it expedient that a measure for the purpose should be passed during the present Session, in order to give ample time for the preparation of all the preliminary arrangements, and to insure the census being taken as accurately and inexpensively as possible, and that in connection with this subject it may be well to consider the propriety of providing some means for the collection and collation of vital, criminal and general statistics.

“We shall not fail respectfully to consider any Bills which Your Excellency may cause to be laid before us for the re-arrangement of some of the Departments of the Government, and also any measures relating to the survey and management of the Dominion Lands, to the Mounted Police, and to the Post Office Department; for the amendment, in some particulars, of the laws relating to Indians, or for the vesting in Her Majesty, for the use of the Dominion, of certain ordnance and admiralty lands in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

“We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that the Estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before us at an early day, and that they have been prepared with as much regard

to economy as is compatible with the efficiency of the public service.

“We share the regret expressed by Your Excellency that the receipts into the Treasury from ordinary sources continue to be inadequate to meet the charges against the Consolidated Revenue; that we agree with Your Excellency in the opinion that it is not desirable that our finances should longer remain in this condition; and that we trust, with Your Excellency, that by the application of the strictest economy to the public expenditure, and by the readjustment of the tariff with the view of increasing the revenue, and, at the same time, of developing and encouraging the various industries of Canada, we shall be enabled to restore the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, and to aid in removing the commercial and financial depression which unhappily continues to exist; and that we thank Your Excellency for having directed that the Public Accounts of the past financial year shall be laid before us.

“We agree with Your Excellency in thinking that as Parliament has recognized the importance of providing for the safe deposit of the surplus earnings of the people, by arranging for their being placed with the Government at a fair rate of interest, it may be well for us to consider how far it is practicable to give a like security and encouragement to persons who may desire, by an insurance upon their lives, to make provision for those dependent upon them.

“Your Excellency may rest assured that our best attention will be given to the important subjects which you have been pleased to allude to, and to the general interests of the country.”

To be *presented* by Privy Councillors.

#### SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

*Resolved*, That a Special Committee of seven Members be appointed to prepare and report Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this House on the 14th instant; composed of Sir John A. Macdonald, and Messrs. Tilley, Tupper, Masson, Mackenzie, Holton and Laurier.

#### SUPPLY.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, resolve itself into a Committee, to consider of a Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

#### WAYS AND MEANS.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, resolve itself into a Committee, to con-