

chief towns in Canada, as well as by some of the Chambers of Commerce in Great Britain, of the necessity that exists for the adoption of some system of Bankruptcy or Insolvency giving adequate protection against undue preferences; and we beg to assure Your Excellency that this important subject shall receive our earnest consideration.

We also thank Your Excellency for informing us that, in pursuance of the vote of last Session Your Excellency caused a vessel to be fitted out and despatched to Davis' Straits and Hudson's Bay, in order to obtain more accurate information as to the navigation of those waters, and to test the practicability of the route for commercial purposes; and that a report of the progress of the expedition will be laid before us.

We agree with Your Excellency in thinking that, as an International Exhibition will be opened at Antwerp during the present year, and as a Colonial and Indian Exhibition is to be held in London in 1886, Canada should be represented in her various manufactures and natural productions on both occasions. The best means of aiding in these important objects shall not fail to receive the consideration Your Excellency has been pleased to invoke from us.

It affords us pleasure to learn that several other measures of importance will be submitted to us; and that among them will be Bills to amend the Insurance Act of 1877, the Civil Service Act, and the law relating to contagious diseases among cattle, as well as measures for taking at an early period a census of the population of the North-West Territories, and one relating to the North-West Mounted Police.

We beg to assure Your Excellency that our earnest consideration will be given to the subjects your Excellency has mentioned, as well as to every matter which may affect the prosperity and good government of Canada.

HON. DR. SULLIVAN—The distinguished honor of seconding the Address, which has just been so ably presented to you by my hon. friend from British Columbia, is a peculiar gratification to me, a gratification which I would be happy to exhibit more properly than I can on this occasion, were the time afforded me. Unfortunately,

I must throw myself on the generosity of this House, and ask them to attribute any faults of mine to the short time at my disposal, which did not admit of such preparation as would be worthy of this occasion.

The agricultural interest of this country, strong, powerful and progressive, rejoices in the results of a bountiful harvest. The prosperity of this interest is felt by all classes of the community. When they rejoice the whole country shares in their rejoicing; in their adversity the whole country is sad with them. I am, therefore, very glad to be able to congratulate this House on the bountiful harvest which the agricultural community have reaped and on the restoration of their prosperity.

The flow of population into Manitoba, as is mentioned here, is a matter which is also of great consequence to the whole Dominion. One of the most important social events of last year was the visit of the British Medical Association to Canada. I had the honor of meeting its members in Montreal, and from every one of them I heard words of pride and gratification at the extraordinary success to which Canada had attained, and expressions of surprise at seeing such a hardy, bold, adventurous race occupying the Northwest as they found there.

I shall not take the time of the House in dealing with other matters which are mentioned in this Address. I am sure we all take a deep interest in the subject of Chinese immigration, in its moral and social aspects, and it is possible that Canada may succeed in solving this, as she has solved other difficult problems in government. We shall look forward with great interest to the report of the commissioners on this subject, and probably we will be enabled to reach some satisfactory conclusion on this grave question which threatens to agitate the whole Dominion.

I am pleased to find that the possibility of Davis' Straits and Hudson's Bay being used for commercial purposes has been tested, and although there are rumors—not anything definite, but rumors merely—that not much may be expected in this direction, possibly something much more beneficial to the whole Dominion may result therefrom than is generally anticipated.