

between income and expenditure; though we are aware that great economy will be still needful to attain this object.

We share Your Excellency's regret that Your Excellency is still unable to announce any progress in obtaining a settlement of the Fishery claims under the *Washington Treaty*, notwithstanding the efforts made by Your Excellency's Government to secure that result.

We learn with satisfaction that Your Excellency's Commissioners have made further Treaty arrangements with certain of the Indian tribes of the *North-West Territories*, by which their title is extinguished to a very large portion of the Territories west of Treaty No. 4. We thank Your Excellency for informing us that although some of the provisions of this Treaty are of a somewhat onerous and exceptional character, Your Excellency has thought it nevertheless advisable, on the whole, to ratify it, and that this Treaty will be placed before us; and that Your Excellency has made an engagement to negotiate a Treaty with the remaining tribes east of the *Rocky Mountains*.

We feel with Your Excellency that although the expenditure incurred by the Indian Treaties is undoubtedly large, yet that the Canadian policy is nevertheless the cheapest ultimately, if we compare the results with those of other countries; and that it is, above all, a humane, just and Christian policy.

We rejoice to know that notwithstanding the deplorable war waged between the Indian tribes in the *United States* territories, and the Government of that country, during the last year, no difficulty has arisen with the Canadian tribes living in the immediate vicinity of the scene of hostilities.

We shall not fail to consider the expediency of making such changes in the Joint Stock Companies Act as may obviate for the future the passage of Special Acts of Parliament for the incorporation of various classes of Companies, including such corporations as seek to engage in the borrowing and lending of money, by providing for their organization by Letters Patent.

We are well pleased to learn that the desirability of affording additional security to policy holders of Life Assurance Companies has engaged the attention of your Excellency's Government, and that that we trust that the measure which will be submitted to us will accomplish the desired object.

We shall give our attentive consideration to any measure submitted to us for the purpose of extending to the navigation of the great inland waters, rights and remedies at present confined to waters within the jurisdiction of the Courts of Vice-Admiralty, as well as to any measure for amending and consolidating the laws relating to Customs.

We think, with Your Excellency, that it is advisable to provide for the permanent prosecution of the Geological Survey, which has heretofore been carried on under temporary enactments, and to make this a distinct branch of the Civil Service; and that we shall give our best attention to any Bill laid before us for that purpose.

We shall fully consider any measures submitted to us for the amendment of the Weights and Measures Act, the Excise Laws, and other Acts, and also any Bill relating to Shipping.

We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that the accounts of the past year will be laid before us, and that the Estimates of the next financial year which will also be submitted, will, as Your Excellency trusts, be found to be framed with a view to meet the existing circumstances of the country, while at the same time, providing for carrying on the administration of affairs with efficiency.

Your Excellency may rest assured that we shall earnestly endeavor to justify Your Excellency's reliance on our prudence and ability, and our devotion to the work of Legislation, which, we trust, may be carried on and completed in such a way, as to minister to the prosperity of the country, and the unity of the people.

The said Address, being read a second time, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be engrossed.