

House of Commons Debates

FIFTH SESSION—SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, 18th April, 1895.

The Parliament, which had been prorogued from time to time, was now commanded to assemble on the 18th day of April, 1895, for the despatch of business.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at fifteen minutes before Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

A Message was delivered by René Edouard Kimber, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod :

Mr. SPEAKER,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the Senate Chamber.

Accordingly, the House went up to the Senate Chamber.

And the House being returned,

VACANCIES.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that during the recess I have received communications from several members notifying me that the following vacancies had occurred in the representation, viz. :—

Of Hon. Mr. Dickey, Member for the Electoral District of Cumberland, by the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown.

Of Hon. Félix Geoffron, Member for the Electoral District of Verchères, by decease.

Of Hon. Walter Humphries Montague, Member for the Electoral District of Haldimand, by the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown.

Of the Rt. Hon. Sir John S. D. Thompson, K.C.M.G., Member for the Electoral District of Antigonish, by decease.

I accordingly issued my several warrants to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out new writs of election for the said Electoral Districts respectively.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have also the honour to inform the House that during the recess, the Clerk of the House has received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, a certificate of the election and return

Of Hon. Arthur R. Dickey, for the Electoral District of Cumberland.

FIRST READING.

Bill (No. 1) respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office.—(Mr. Foster.)

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that when the House did attend His Excellency the Governor General this day in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a speech to both Houses of Parliament. To prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy, which is as follows :—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

It is with much satisfaction that I again have recourse to your advice and assistance in the administration of the affairs of the Dominion.

By the sudden and lamented death of the late Right Honourable Sir John Thompson, Canada has sustained a grievous loss. The deep and heartfelt sympathy expressed by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and the manifestations of sorrow with which the distressing intelligence was received throughout the Empire, as well as tokens of esteem and respect everywhere paid to the memory of the deceased statesman, have been gratefully appreciated by the people of Canada.

Satisfactory assurances having been received from Her Majesty's Government respecting the interpretation of certain clauses in the Treaty of Commerce with France, ratifications will be exchanged as soon as the necessary legislation has been passed.

The recent action of the Imperial Parliament enabling the various Australasian Governments