

are anxious to afford a fresh proof of your loyal attachment to the Sovereign whom I have the honor to represent.

I need not assure you that I fully appreciate the importance of the functions, which as a body, you exercise in this great and growing community. Removed from the stormy atmosphere of political contention, you devote yourselves to the promotion of the material prosperity of your native country; while the very essence of your existence consists in establishing and extending friendly relations with all neighboring States.

I have followed with the keenest interest the discussions in which you have lately been engaged, and I have observed with admiration what an amount of intelligence, liberality of sentiment, and sound economical science they have exhibited. It is with the warmest sympathy that I shall associate myself with you in your friendly rivalry with the United States; and I must say that as far as the physical and material resources of the country, or the moral and intellectual qualities of the inhabitants are concerned, I see nothing which need lead you to expect anything but a most successful issue to the career on which you have embarked. Never, perhaps, have any people entered under more favorable auspices upon a fairer field of industry and exertion. The most magnificent system of water communication existing on the habitable globe leads into the heart of a region of unexampled fertility, of unmeasurable extent, enriched in one direction by a varied field of mineral wealth, and in the other one of the largest coal-fields in the world. Already the news of your brightening prospects has reached the shores of Europe, and each year is probably destined to see thousands of fresh recruits added to your laborious population,—while another decade will see completed that great line of Intercolonial Railway communication which is to unite the eastern and western limits of the Dominion.

I consider it a most fortunate circumstance that my arrival in this country should have been so timed as to permit me to participate in your aspirations, to assist your endeavors, and I trust to share in your triumphs.

My only desire and ambition is to identify myself as completely as possible with Canadian interests, and to win the confidence of the Canadian people.

After His Excellency had thus replied formally to the address, he entered into conversation with the deputation on various subjects relating to the progress and prosperity of Canada. He had taken pleasure in watching the proceedings of the recent Annual Meeting as reported in the press from day to day; he also stated that he would be happy to assist in furthering the objects of the Dominion Board of Trade, and that its President and Executive Council might always rely upon him as a firm friend.

The President remarked that a copy of the official Reports of proceedings at the several Annual Meetings of the Board would be presented to His Excellency,—and the deputation withdrew.

PETITIONS, MEMORIALS, AND RESOLUTIONS.

Copies of all the resolutions and recommendations adopted, were speedily transmitted to each of the constituent organizations;