

That we are grateful to His Excellency for the expression of his great satisfaction in having recourse to our advice, and that we rejoice with His Excellency to think that on this the first occasion on which we have had the honor of being addressed by him, there is ground for congratulation on the aspect of public affairs at home and abroad, on the prevalence of peaceful counsels amongst nations, and on indications of agreement and tranquillity favorable alike to the development of foreign commerce and the prosecution of domestic industry.

That we thank His Excellency for the assurance that, the great scheme of Confederation, having been successfully inaugurated under the auspices of his Predecessor, it is to him a source of pride to find his name in honorable association with the rising fortunes of the Dominion of *Canada*, and that he will count it a happiness as well as a duty to co-operate, to the utmost of his ability, to furthering our efforts to strengthen the ties that bind the different Provinces together, and to ensure the attachment of the people to the soil, by the enactment of wise and equal laws.

That we learn with pleasure that our efforts in these directions seem now more than ever likely to be called into action, inasmuch as the terms upon which great accessions are offered to the Dominion will be submitted for our immediate consideration.

That we thank His Excellency for informing us that in consequence of the Duke of *Buckingham* and *Chandos'* despatch of the 8th of August last year, stating that His Grace proposed to enter into negotiations with the *Hudson's Bay Company*, as to the terms on which they would be willing to surrender their rights and claims in the North-West Territory, Lord Monck sent home to *England* two members of the Privy Council as a deputation to watch the course of the proceedings and attend to the interests of *Canada*; that the Conferences in *London* and the correspondence on the subject have been brought to a definite issue by the proposal which, after a full review of the circumstances, Earl *Granville* made on the part of Her Majesty's Government for the consideration of the people of *Canada* and of the *Hudson's Bay Company*; and that His Excellency has received the intelligence that the *Hudson's Bay Company* has, after some deliberation, decided upon accepting the terms laid by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

That when the report of the Mission and all the papers connected therewith are duly laid before Parliament, as His Excellency has been pleased to direct, they shall not fail to receive our serious consideration, to which His Excellency has been pleased to commend them in view of the great importance of the subject no less than in the hope that this long vexed question may be closed without further delay.

That we rejoice to learn that His Excellency has received communications from the Governor of *Newfoundland*, expressing the desire for admission into the Union which prevails amongst the inhabitants of that colony, including a despatch of the 20th March last, covering copies of Resolutions which have been passed by the Council and Assembly, and which set forth the conditions they consider it desirable to advance.

That we thank His Excellency for his assurance that these documents shall be furnished at once for the information of Parliament; and that if, before the close of the Session, His Excellency should be in a position to submit the details of a provisional arrangement for our consideration, the same shall receive our best attention.

That we agree with His Excellency that it will be a subject of general congratulation, as His Excellency is pleased to say it will also be a sensible pleasure to him, if at some early day the fine Colony of *Newfoundland*, unrivalled as the nursery of hardy seamen, and inexhaustible in its wealth of Fisheries, becomes part of the Dominion.

That it is with great pleasure that we learn from His Excellency that in accordance with the suggestion of Her Majesty's Government, an earnest attempt has been made to allay the discontent unhappily existing in *Nova Scotia*; and that the papers connected with this subject, when submitted to us, will receive our favorable consideration.

That we thank His Excellency for informing us that in continuance of the course commenced last Session, Bills will be presented to us for the assimilation of the Criminal Laws existing in the several Provinces; and that we agree with His Excellency that no greater boon can be conferred on a country than a well defined code of criminal law, of general application and easy ascertainment.

That we shall give our earnest attention and consideration to the Bills for the establishment of uniform and amended laws respecting Parliamentary Elections, Bankruptcy and Insolvency, and Patents of invention and discovery, which His Excellency is pleased to say