

statesman whose counsels have been earnestly sought for by leading statesmen of the realm, and whose experience in other and difficult stations earned for him a reputation as an Imperial representative which few have attained to, should be asked to represent Her Majesty in Canada; and it is the strongest indication of the value which is set upon this Dominion by the Imperial Government and by our beloved sovereign, whom he represents. We naturally hail with delight the arrival on our shores of any statesman bearing such an important trust, but it is doubly satisfactory to the people of Canada to realize that ever since His Excellency set foot upon Canadian soil, at the old and historic city of Quebec, every action and every movement which His Excellency has made has more firmly convinced us that he has the welfare of the country at heart and is determined to more firmly cement Canada as a portion of the Empire, and continue within our borders that deep feeling of loyalty which throughout our history has been characteristic of our people.

The prosperity of the Dominion as evinced by reports from every authentic source, is indeed a matter of congratulation. It is true that the depression which has been sweeping over other countries has affected one of our staple products, but no one can successfully contend, that this is true of our general trade or that Canada to-day does not occupy a most enviable position as compared with other countries. So far as my own province is concerned, I need only quote from the annual reports of the cashier of one of our leading banking houses to show that our prosperity is not a mere illusion, produced by political bias or asserted for political purposes, but indeed a genuine verity. In his reports this gentleman says:

Everything farmers have raised this year has yielded profits and given good results for their labour; therefore the value of the production of the year, from that source has been considerably increased and for these causes the business of the community at large and its general trade, which directly depends for the activity on the farmers' return, has been good. The power of purchasing has been increased by the good return, and as a natural consequence, farmers' budgets all round have been replenished. Country storekeepers have purchased very freely, and remittances from the country have been satisfactory. The sales in wholesale trade have been maintained and the volume of business has been materially over the average of last year.

That this prosperity may continue and increase is the heartfelt wish of every well

wisher of our country, but in this connection I may add that our prosperity can only be continued by adhesion to those principles which have protected Canadian industries from the whirlwind of depression which has raged to the south of us.

The intimation contained in the Speech of His Excellency, of the consummation of a steamship communication between Canada and England and between Canada and Australia is an event of more than continental importance. Canada has hitherto occupied a position at the further extreme from that occupied by the Australian colonies. She is now to be placed immediately in the pathway of connection between the great Australian continent and the centre of the Empire. She cannot but reap advantages hitherto unknown to us, and it gives her new possibilities of development never before possessed. Her position as an integral and indispensable portion of the Empire is, by this enterprise, permanently assured, and the wisdom of the undertaking reflects the highest credit upon the Government which has given us this additional boon.

In seconding this resolution, permit me to express the hope that the labours of the present session, may be both useful and harmonious and that we may all enter upon our duty with a fervent desire to promote the well-being of this fair Dominion.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I desire to offer my congratulations to the Senator from Prince Edward Island, who has been selected by the Government to move the resolution on which to base the Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne. That hon. gentleman need not have asked the forbearance or indulgence of the House—although the Senate would be always ready to grant an indulgent hearing to all its new members—for he has given us evidence that he is not unaccustomed to addressing deliberative bodies. The hon. gentleman was clear and explicit, from his own standpoint, and, although I do not agree with him in all his conclusions, yet, I admit that it was a very interesting speech that he delivered to this Chamber, and, I have no doubt, in the future we shall have an opportunity of hearing his voice on the various subjects which come up for consideration. The hon. gentleman who seconded the resolution did so with the good taste which he always displays when he addresses the Senate, which, I