

## PRAYERS.

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the Table:—

By the Honorable Mr. Read (Quinté),—Of the Alberta Railway and Coal Company.

By the Honorable Mr. McKindsey,—Of the Belleville and Lake Nipissing Railway Company, and of the Great North-West Central Railway Company.

The Order of the Day being read for the consideration of His Excellency's Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament,

The Honorable Mr. Boulton moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Lougheed,

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to offer the respectful thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament, namely:—

To HIS EXCELLENCY the Right Honorable Sir FREDERICK ARTHUR STANLEY, Baron Stanley of Preston, in the County of Lancaster, in the Peerage of Great Britain; Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General of Canada and Vice-Admiral of the same.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for your gracious Speech at the opening of this Session.

We rejoice that Your Excellency, on calling us together again for the consideration of Public Affairs, can with justice congratulate us on a continuance of the progress and prosperity of the Country.

It affords us great pleasure to learn that, during the recess, Your Excellency visited Manitoba, the North-West Territories and British Columbia, and that everywhere Your Excellency found yourself received with the loyalty and good-will which you graciously say you have learned to be characteristic of Canada. It is gratifying to us to find that a comparison of Your Excellency's own observations with those of your predecessors shows clearly the great progress which has marked this part of the Dominion, in the settlement of the Country and in the development of its great agricultural capabilities, of its mineral wealth and of its other natural resources.

We receive with a full sense of its importance the announcement that, in consequence of the repeated seizures by Cruisers of the United States Navy of Canadian Vessels, while employed in the capture of seals in that part of the Northern Pacific Ocean, known as Behring Sea, Your Excellency's Government has strongly represented to Her Majesty's Ministers, the necessity of protecting our shipping, while engaged in their lawful calling, as well as guarding against the assumption by any nation of exclusive proprietary rights in those waters. We beg leave to assure Your Excellency of our confidence that those representations have had due weight, and we trust that your hope of being enabled during the present Session to assure us that all differences on this question are in the course of satisfactory adjustment will be realized.

We are glad to learn that, having observed the close attention which has recently been given by the Imperial authorities and on the continent of Europe to the improvement in the methods of catching, curing and packing fish, Your Excellency deemed it expedient to cause a Commission to be sent to Scotland and Holland to examine and report upon this subject during the fishing season, and that the report of the delegates will be laid before us; it will, we are sure, give our Fishermen most valuable information and instruction as to the best means of improving and developing this important industry.

We receive with interest the information that Your Excellency's Ministers have carefully considered the difficulties which surround the administration of the rights