

We participate in the regret felt by Your Excellency in having to state that although every effort has been made to obtain an early settlement of the claims of *Canada* for compensation for the use of her Fisheries by the *United States*, as provided by the Treaty of *Washington*, and although Her Majesty's Government in the early part of last summer, at the instance of Your Excellency's advisers, appointed the British Commissioner, the *United States* Government have not yet appointed a Commissioner, and that consequently no progress has been made.

We thank Your Excellency for informing us that you have given effect to the Supreme and Exchequer Court Act of last Session by issuing the proclamations, and by appointing the Judges and Officers of the Court.

We shall await with interest the Bill to simplify and amend the Law relating to Common Carriers, which Your Excellency is pleased to inform us will be submitted for your consideration, as well as the Bill which we learn from Your Excellency will be brought before us containing provisions for affording greater security to policy holders in Life Assurance Companies.

The want of reliable and systematised information relating to the several classes of crime and the importance of collecting and classifying criminal statistics having engaged Your Excellency's attention, we are glad to hear from Your Excellency that a Bill will be introduced to provide for what is most essential in this direction.

We are grateful to Your Excellency for the information that Parliament will be asked to make provision for the commencement of the work of consolidating the Statute Law.]

It gives us pleasure to learn from Your Excellency that the Acts relating to the enfranchisement of Indians and the management of Indian affairs have been fully considered, and steps have been taken to ascertain the views of the Indians themselves, and that a measure on this subject will be submitted for our approval.

We thank Your Excellency for informing us also that a measure will be introduced to provide for the better administration of the estates of insolvent Banks.

We are grateful to Your Excellency for the promise that Correspondence, Reports and other Papers regarding the construction of the Pacific Railway will be laid before us.

We receive with great interest the statement made to us by Your Excellency that during the recess a deputation from the Government of *Manitoba* visited *Ottawa* to invite the attention of the Government of the Dominion to the circumstances of that Province, and that they represented that the income of the Province was insufficient to provide for its ordinary Governmental expenses, that the papers on this subject will be laid before us, and certain propositions will be submitted for our consideration, and that the Legislature of *Manitoba* has in the meantime adopted some measures to reduce the expenditures of the Province.

We heartily respond to Your Excellency's invitation by promising Your Excellency that we shall give our earnest attention to the several subjects mentioned, and to the general business which will come before us, and we trust, with Your Excellency, that our deliberations may be guided by wisdom and moderation.