

We feel with Your Excellency that the hope you expressed at the close of the last Session, that on the re-assembling of Parliament we should be able to congratulate ourselves on a season of peace and prosperity, has been fully realized :

Canada has been favored with a year of great prosperity :

Her farmers have enjoyed a plentiful harvest and remunerative prices :

Her manufacturing and other industries have been and continue to be developed under favorable auspices :

Her trade and commerce have been steadily increasing, and peace and order prevail within her borders :

And for these various blessings we cannot be sufficiently thankful to the Giver of all good things.

The Chief Magistrate of the United States having been cut off by the hand of an assassin, we feel that it is fitting that the sorrow of our people for a loss which was not that of our friends and neighbors alone, should be adverted to by Your Excellency as another instance of the sympathy which unites in brotherhood the British Empire and the American Republic.

We learn with great satisfaction that during the recess Your Excellency had the pleasure of visiting the Province of Manitoba, and of traversing the extensive prairies of the North-West, and is able, from personal examination, sincerely to congratulate Canada on the possession of so magnificent and fertile a region, to be inhabited, we trust, in the course of years, by millions of thriving and contented subjects of Her Majesty.

We recognize the fact that the immigrants have not confined themselves to Manitoba or its vicinity, but are scattered over the country westward to the base of the Rocky Mountains, and from the international boundary to the banks of the Northern Saskatchewan ; we agree with Your Excellency in thinking that the time has come for the division of the Territories into four or more Provisional Districts, with an appropriate nomenclature, and that this subject, when submitted to us by Your Excellency, will receive our attentive consideration.

We are pleased to learn from Your Excellency that during your journey you were met by numerous Indian tribes, all expressing confidence in the continuance of the traditional policy of kindness and justice which has hitherto governed the relations between the Government and the Aborigines, while we share Your Excellency's regret that the necessity of supplementing the food supply of the

Indians still exists and is likely to continue for some years.

We are happy to know that every exertion has been made to settle the Indian Bands on Reserves, and to induce them to betake themselves to the raising of cattle and cultivating the soil, and that these efforts have met with a fair measure of success ; but we are aware that we can only expect by a long continuance of patient firmness to induce these children of the Prairie and the Forest to abandon their nomadic habits, become self-supporting, and ultimately add to the industrial wealth of the country, and that the influx of a white population has greatly increased the danger of collision between the settler and the Red man ; we observe that Your Excellency is of opinion, that an augmentation of the Mounted Police has been rendered a matter of urgency, and our attention shall be given to the sanction of such increase as Your Excellency may think it necessary to seek.

We learn with much satisfaction that the second report of the Commission appointed to investigate the existing system of the Civil Service will be laid before us ; and any measure on the subject submitted to us shall receive our willing consideration.

We are aware that the decennial Census having been taken last year, the duty of reconsidering and readjusting the representation in the House of Commons is imposed upon us, and we will carefully consider any measure for the purpose which may be laid before us.

We learn with much interest that several other measures of importance will be submitted to us, and that among them will be Bills for the winding up of Insolvent Banks, Insurance Companies and Trading Corporations, for the consolidation and amendment of the Laws respecting the Dominion Lands, for the amendment of the Acts relating to the Supreme Court of Canada, and Bills relating to the tenure of office of the Judges of County Courts, and to Fugitive Offenders within the Empire ; and that our attention will be called to the present anomalous position of the Vice-Admiralty jurisdiction ; and all these measures, when submitted, shall receive our best attention.

That we receive with much satisfaction the information which Your Excellency has afforded us respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway, and are glad to know,—

That the work of construction on that portion of the said railway between Prince Arthur's Landing and Winnipeg is being pressed to completion,