

West the opportunity of seeing in person the men of whom they have heard so much. It is but right and just that they should have the opportunity of seeing and becoming personally acquainted with the men in whom they expect to find true friends, and to whom they look to protect their interests. These visits also help to create what is most necessary, and what I am very sorry to see is greatly wanting in Canada, and that is a national sentiment. Canadians are too apt to belittle their own country in comparison with the nations of the world; they are too apt to forget its magnitude and its great natural resources, and to lose sight of what they are going to be and are bound to be. In this they work an injustice to themselves, and create an unfavorable impression with regard to our country abroad. We should feel proud of being part and parcel of the greatest Empire that the world has ever known; and what still further should be a great source of pride and gratification to the people of Canada is the fact that they are no longer a sick child in the arms of England, but have strength within themselves—that they are quite capable of maintaining themselves, and are, in fact, a source of strength to the mother country. I sincerely believe that our future will be a glorious one, but while we have these great gifts of nature in these natural resources, which are being developed by the courage and pluck of our Canadian people, under the fostering care of the wise fiscal policy of the Government of the day—while all these things are instrumental in making us more and more independent, at the same time I believe that the desire for British connection has never deeper root in the hearts and minds of the Canadian people than it is at this very moment. Like dutiful children we feel that we have a right to be thankful to those powers who protected us in our infancy; and now that we have become strong and are rapidly becoming powerful, we bow with humble feelings of patriotism and loyalty at the Throne of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, the woman whom we all love, honor and respect. His Excellency notices, besides, the great strides of progress our West has made in agricultural and mineral development. As a practical farmer, I may say that we have a right to be thankful to the Great Giver of all good gifts for the past season. It is quite true that, in a great country such as Canada, with such a vast extent of territory, it would be impossible for every part, portion or section to produce just the character of crops desired; but take Canada as a whole, I believe that last year's crop was a good one, free from frosts, free from any extraordinary blight, and in every instance the production was of first class quality. In the far East our crops were very bountiful, and we had a very good harvest time to secure them. The hay crop, which is very essential in the eastern section of Canada, where we are forced by our long winters to stable our animals for many months, was an immense one, exceeding any for the last few years. The ranchers of the North-West had a beautiful winter. Their cattle came out in splendid condition. They had a magnificent summer for their grasses—a very essential element in the production of beef—and, consequently, the enterprise of the ranchmen has been rewarded with success. The farmers of Canada have been able to realise for their agricultural

productions as great, if not greater, prices than those of any other section on the continent of America. I maintain that the markets open to Canada are as good, if not better, especially in the East, where, I say it without hesitation, the markets are the best that possibly could be found on this side of the Atlantic. The life of a farmer is a hard one. We are no sooner out of one work than we are into another. When we have harvested our crops, and marketed them, we must begin to prepare for the next year, and that preparation is a matter of great importance. The favorable weather we have had has admitted of ploughing in the North-West to an extent unknown before in the history of this country. Early fall ploughing insures early crops, and early crops insure, as a rule, early harvests. With a prospective, I believe a certain, rise in the price of beef, I think the farmers of Canada have the right to look forward with confidence to the year 1890. Being a new and undeveloped country, especially that section lying to the west, it is of the greatest importance that His Excellency should have personal knowledge of its wonderful capabilities. We are to-day reaping the benefits of the visits paid to that country by the illustrious predecessors of His Excellency. We now find them on the other side of the water saying good and kind things in reference to Canada, and endeavoring, by means of their position, to foster our interests. I beg, Sir, to say that I believe, when the present occupant of the position of Governor-General of this Dominion returns to his native country, we shall ever find him a true friend to our interests—in the same way as we have found the noble lords who have preceded him. I am sure both sides of the House will feel much gratified at that portion of His Excellency's speech which states that the long disputed point in reference to our fishery rights will probably be settled very shortly. The people of Canada have every reason to congratulate the Government of the day on the courteous, and, at the same time, firm stand they have taken upon this matter. They have evinced from the beginning every desire to treat our American neighbors with respect, and to make every allowance for their very peculiar way of mixing up international questions with ordinary corner politics, as though they were one and the same thing. We have given them every chance to cool down after the excitement of an election campaign, but at the same time we have not been negligent, nor are we going to be willing that they should infringe or trample upon our rights. The result of this firmness on the part of the Government of the day, accompanied by the willingness of the Government to treat the question fairly and without prejudice, has been that the world at large respect us for the courage we have displayed and recognise that we have rights peculiar to Canada the value of which cannot be over-estimated. In another paragraph of the Speech we find it stated 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, I 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.”

In consequence of the great value of our fisheries, the Government of the day appointed a Commis-