

I congratulate you upon the very satisfactory results of the commerce of the Country during the past year : the Revenue has been so largely in excess with the Estimates as to enable me, without inconvenience, to provide for the heavy and unexpected charges entailed upon the Country.

Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen :

The position which the great question of the Union of the Provinces of *British North America* has assumed is now such as to induce the expectation that the measure will be shortly carried into effect. I therefore hope and believe that it will be found practicable, during the present Session, to adopt such proceedings as may be necessary for completing the details of the scheme as regards this Province ; and I venture to express the confident expectation that the next Parliament which will be held within these walls will not be confined to an Assembly of the Representatives of *Canada*, but will embrace those of all the Colonies of *British North America*.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the general prosperity which pervades all classes of the community in the Province, and I pray that your Councils may be guided by Divine Providence to secure that which is the true end of all Government, the moral and material advancement of the great body of the people.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Attorney-General *Macdonald*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Attorney General *Cartier*,

Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature be taken into consideration on Monday next.

Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof; and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

Resolved, That Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session be appointed for the following purposes :—1. On Privileges and Elections.—2. On Expiring Laws.—3. On Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.—4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills.—5. On Standing Orders.—6. On Printing.—7. On Contingencies.—8. On Public Accounts.—9. On Banking and Commerce.—10. On Immigration and Colonization ; which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House, and to Report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon ; with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Resolved, That if any thing shall come in question touching the Return or Election of any Member, he is to withdraw during the time the matter is in debate ; and all Members returned upon double Returns are to withdraw until their Returns are determined.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a Member of this House, or endeavored so to be, by bribery or any other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

Resolved, That the offer of any money or other advantage to any Member of the Legislative Assembly for the promoting of any matter whatsoever depending or to be transacted in the Provincial Parliament, is a high crime and misdemeanor, and tends to the subversion of the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House a Report of the Librarian of the Legislative Assembly, on the state of the Library of Parliament, which is as followeth :—

To the Legislative Assembly of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled :

The Report of the Librarian on the state of the Library of Parliament,
RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That the removal of the Library of Parliament from *Quebec* to *Ottawa* has been effected without loss or any serious amount of injury.