

with so soon as the Spring opens. Its construction will complete the most difficult portion of the Canadian *Pacific* Railway, and secure the connection by steam of the fertile district of *Kamloops* with the capital of *British Columbia*.

The adoption of a rigid system of economy in the management of the Inter-colonial Railway has, without impairing the efficiency of its working, effected such a diminution of expense as to warrant the belief that the country will in future be relieved from any considerable burden in connection with its operation.

In consequence of the entire failure of the usual food supply of the Indians in the *North-West*, a large expenditure has been necessarily incurred to save them from starvation. It is hoped that the efforts which are now being made to settle the several bands on the reserves, and to induce them to betake themselves to the cultivation of the soil, may prevent the necessity of similar calls for relief in the future.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

The Estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you. They have been prepared with all due regard to economy.

You will be pleased to learn that the effect of the tariff of last Session in the development of the varied industries of the country has on the whole been very satisfactory. The experience acquired since it came into operation in March last has suggested the expediency of some amendments, to which your attention will be directed.

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate,*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

Bills for the better organization of the Civil Service, for the consolidation of the Inland Revenue laws and for the amendment of the Acts relating to the Dominion lands, to the Public Works, to the Indians of the *North West*, and to the Mounted Police Force, will be laid before you.

The Acts incorporating the Banks of the Dominion will expire next year, and the present would seem a favourable time for a full consideration of our Banking system and of the subject of the currency as connected with that system.

The subject of the laws relating to Insolvency will doubtless engage your attention.

The increasing foreign trade of *Canada*, and the prospect that Her Majesty's Government will enter ere long into negotiations with foreign nations on the subject of their trade and commercial relations, demand our closest attention and watchfulness, while the rapid development of the Dominion is continually giving rise to important matters requiring the support and action of the Imperial Government. With the concurrence of Her Majesty, I therefore recommend you to sanction the appointment of a permanent representative of *Canada* in *London* to guard her various interests.

The subjects I have mentioned are of great importance. I commend them, with full confidence in your wisdom and patriotism, to your best consideration.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The Honorable Sir *Alexander Campbell* presented to the House a Bill, intituled: "An Act respecting Railways."

The said Bill was read for the first time.

The Honorable the Speaker reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same being read by the Clerk,