

on us. I think we might say, with His Excellency that the general condition of the Dominion is such as to justify him in congratulating us upon its prosperity. The marked success attained by Canada at the International Fisheries Exhibition in London is a matter for congratulation, and it is, I think, a sufficient justification for the expenditure that has been incurred. It has shown to the millions of the old world who have visited the Exhibition, that we have other resources besides our cereals, minerals and timber, and that this country is worthy of consideration as a place to emigrate to. It is an advertisement on our behalf, the fruits of which, I think, will appear in due time.

The revision and consolidation of the Statutes is a recurring necessity. These should, every few years, be revised and consolidated, and I think it is a matter for congratulation to us that before the next session it is expected that the revision and consolidation of our Statutes will be fully completed.

It is a source of satisfaction to us, also, to find that there has been an increase in emigration. While there are a great many avenues through which emigration has hitherto been diverted from us, the efforts of our statesmen who have gone to England, the efforts of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and of our emigration agents, altogether have greatly increased immigration to Canada. Large immigration is what we want, and I trust that this year will see a very largely increased number come to our shores.

It is also gratifying to know that the settlement of the difficulties between British Columbia and the Dominion is about to be arranged, and that the papers connected with it will be sent down at once for our consideration. It is gratifying to us to know when difficulties arise between Provincial Governments and the Federal Government that a peaceable means of settlement may be at once suggested to prevent any collision, and whatever these may be (I am not prepared to say what they are) I have no doubt that it has been arranged between the Governments and will be brought down for consideration. There are means whereby all matters of difficulty between Governments may be arranged, and I think it is a principle that ought to be strictly carried out,

that where such difficulties arise prompt action should be taken to send the matter at once for settlement to the highest tribunal. I know that difficulties have heretofore occurred, the settlement of which have been put off for years for certain purposes which to my mind were improper. It should be laid down as a principle that interprovincial difficulties should go at once to a tribunal that can and will settle them permanently and forever.

It is gratifying to know that our North-West Territory is increasing in population to such an extent that it requires extra legislation. Any young territory, while it is progressing, requires legislation from time to time to keep pace with the increasing population and the necessities of the country. It is satisfactory to know that amendments to the North-West Territories Act will be laid before Parliament, and that no doubt it will be properly considered by this House, and that in that legislation the Indians of our North-West will not be forgotten. When we contrast the character of our Indian tribes and the treatment they have received, and the manner in which treaties with the Indians have been kept by our Canadian Government, with the treatment received by the Indians of the United States, we find it is entirely in our favor, showing that the policy of our Government is worthy of all commendation, and it is a policy which ought to be perpetuated. These Indians, of course, require care and guardianship, and I think it is the duty of the Government of any country to pay strict attention to that guardianship.

Another important question referred to in the Speech is that of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Some legislation is about to be proposed with respect to that road. This is a question, to my mind, of the greatest importance to this country. Without the Canadian Pacific Railway, all that has been done in the North-west would be undone. Separate it as you please, it is purely a Canadian institution, a Canadian enterprise, which must be maintained. I was gratified with the statement made by the Marquis of Lorne in British Columbia when he said to those people that no Government in the world, governing four and a half millions of people had ever attempted an enterprise of such magnitude for the benefit of its subjects. I