

an Act of the Dominion Parliament to constitute Courts having the civil jurisdiction of Courts of Vice-Admiralty. Those Courts had jurisdiction to the extent of tide water, but they had not jurisdiction over the great inland navigation system of Canada. The Americans did not at first extend that jurisdiction over the lakes and rivers lying between their country and the Dominion, but for some years the maritime law had been extended by them to those waters. A similar law should be extended to Canadian waters. In view of the importance of the mineral resources of the country, he approved of the proposal to place the Geological Survey on a permanent footing, and attaching it to one of the branches of the Civil Service. Within its scope would be embraced botany, meteorology, and other branches of physical science. The concluding paragraph of the Speech from the Throne expressed confidence in their prudence and ability in proceeding with the work of legislation, a confidence which His Excellency would not find to have been misplaced, and it was to be hoped that the result would be, as indicated by His Excellency, the prosperity of the country and liberty of the people. They desired that this young nation should be prosperous and the people united; that there should be no sectional jealousies, and with that as the aim and object of legislation, their purpose would be attained. Viewing the subjects embraced in the Speech, the constitutional questions, the matters relating to public works and to trade, and looking at the important legislation proposed, he confidently asked the favourable consideration by the House of the resolutions which he had the honour to propose.

Mr. BECHARD: However honourable may be the task of seconding the Address in reply to His Excellency, I cannot venture to say that it is with pleasure that I accepted that honour. The feeling of my insufficiency to touch upon every point in the vast field laid open before me, produces a degree of hesitation which the kindness of the House alone can assist me in overcoming. Thus, more than any of those who have preceded me in the path in which I now venture to tread,

Mr. GUTHRIE.

I feel the need of the indulgence of the House. The duty of thanking His Excellency the Governor General for the Speech with which he every year opens the session of Parliament, is one to which the most perfect degree of courtesy is invariably brought; but that duty becomes an especially agreeable one when we are called upon to perform it with reference to the eminently distinguished man who to-day presides over the destinies of Canada. On many occasions since his arrival among us, Lord Dufferin has done the country notable service. No man appears to have taken a greater interest in its prosperity than he, and no man has spoken of its progress and natural advantages more ably than he. Especially the remembrance will not soon fail of the eloquent account which he gave of the country last year, on the occasion of his visit to England, where he became the panegyrist of Canada; he presented it before the eyes of the mother country in the most favourable light, sketching a brilliant picture of its resources, extolling the harmony of its inhabitants, and rendering a high tribute to the character of its inhabitants, their feelings of loyalty to the Crown, and their attachment to the principles of the old British Constitution. But I must here make special allusion to the journey which His Excellency undertook last summer to the most remote Province of the Dominion, the Province of British Columbia. There, again, the Governor General found an opportunity of showing his devotion to the public interests, sparing no trouble to examine into the resources of that Province, and manifesting his wish to see every difficulty smoothed away which might be of a nature to disturb, even for a time, the good understanding which ought to reign between the several Provinces which form part of the Confederation. Time would fail me, Mr. Speaker, if I ventured here to enumerate all Lord Dufferin's claims to our gratitude; I merely wish to be allowed to add that by his affection for the Canadian people, and the lively interest which day by day he takes in their prosperity, he appears to have taken as his device, the words so frequently repeated of one of the best