

can possibly be opened to accommodate the output of the great northwest, which will increase in progressive ratio with the rapid settlement of the new provinces.

The sober thought of the country will be with the government in their efforts to regulate, and, if possible, suppress the opium trade in this Dominion.

With a country teeming with wealth in agriculture, mines, forests and fisheries, with the completion of our transcontinental railway system, the building of the Georgian bay canal and the deepening and improving of our other canals and the opening up of our northern country, who can foresee the magnificent future of this Dominion under the able and patriotic management of the far-seeing statesmen who control the destinies of Canada.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED.—Since we last met in this Chamber we have had a general election, and while I at one time was hopeful that my hon. friends on the other side of the House would transfer themselves to the left of the Speaker, which I think would have been for the benefit and advantage of the country, yet it remains to be said that those of us who have been a sufficiently long time in public life have schooled ourselves to the inevitable, and we therefore accept the decree of the fates with that philosophy which should always become public men. However, some changes have taken place, and those changes have been very happily alluded to by my hon. friend from Mille Isles in moving the reply to the speech from the Throne. I heartily concur with him in most of the remarks he has made with reference to those changes. I am sure those of us who sit on this side of the House profoundly regret that my hon. friend opposite, who has so acceptably led this House for many years, has retired from the responsible and dignified position which he occupied. We all look back with very much pleasure upon the good will and courtesy which he ever extended during his time in office to hon. gentlemen upon this side of the House, and likewise to the entire Chamber. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction to us to know that my hon. friend still occupies his seat as a member of this Chamber, and I have no doubt that this

House will be equally fortunate in the future as in the past in having the advantage of his long experience, ability and parliamentary knowledge in the transaction of the business of the country. The mantle of my hon. friend has fallen on the shoulders of my right hon. friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce. This is also a matter of congratulation into which this side of the House can enter with all sincerity. My hon. friend from Mille Isles referred to the right hon. leader of the House as like one of the brightest stars in the constellations which illumine this earth. While I have never associated my right hon. friend with such ethereal and celestial honours, I am tempted to say that had his translation to this pacific chamber taken place some few years ago when the Conservatives were in the ascendancy in this House, and at the time when my right hon. friend was hurling his bolts against the Senate, he then, instead of suggesting stellar thoughts to our minds, would have suggested the more militant idea of that destroying angel with one foot on the sea and the other on the land trumpeting the doom of the Senate and all his political foes. I therefore have always associated my right hon. friend's name with more militant ideas than those suggested by the hon. gentleman from Mille Isles. However, I am bound to say that the government has made a right choice in asking him to lead the Senate. The appointment is certainly a most acceptable one. There is no member of the Liberal party who has occupied a more illustrious position in the ranks of his party for a generation past than my right hon. friend, and it was very fitting that the responsibility of leading this House should fall upon him. I have to express the hope in all sincerity that while the Liberal party remains in office—which I hope will not be long—my right hon. friend may continue to lead with success and acceptability the government in this Chamber. Nothing has escaped the attention, apparently, of my hon. friend from Mille Isles. He commented on the fact that my hon. friend from De Lorimier has stepped down from the high position he occupied for the last four years, and has assumed the office apparently of

Hon. Mr. DERBYSHIRE.