

tions. 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 Public Accounts. 8. On Banking and Commerce. 9. On Immigration and Colonization; which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire 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.

Motion agreed to.

REPORT.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House the Report of the Librarian on the state of the Library of Parliament.

ADJOURNMENT.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved the adjournment of the House.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PAPERS.

Mr. BLAKE. May I ask the hon. gentleman if he proposes to lay on the Table, without motion, the papers connected with the Canadian Pacific Railway arrangements referred to in the Speech?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They will be sent down as soon as the Speech is answered, by Messages from the Crown.

Motion agreed to; and (at 3:50 o'clock p.m.) the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, 18th January, 1884.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three O'clock.

PRAYERS.

ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

The House proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session.

Mr. MACMASTER. Mr. Speaker, the first clause of the Speech from the Throne is one to which hon. members will give their very ready assent, and I am sure that not only this House, but the country generally, will endorse the wise choice made by Her Majesty of Her representative in this country. We know that the noble lord who has been appointed Governor-General of Canada, though yet comparatively a young man, has achieved a high position in the public life of the Mother Country, and that he has been a member of Mr. Gladstone's Administration. We further know that he belongs to a distinguished family which has contributed to Great Britain not only a Chancellor of the Exchequer, but also a Prime Minister. I am sure the Canadian people will extend to the Governor-General a hearty welcome, and I have no doubt his administration in this country will be as successful as those of his immediate predecessors. We have had the advantage of late years, not merely of having the selection of Governors-General wisely made, and the benefit of the eminent services rendered by these Imperial officers in the colony, but also the unofficial services of many of those gentlemen after their term of office and their connection with this country proper have ceased. In this respect Lord Dufferin and the Marquis of Lorne, though acting un-

officially, have been our most valued ambassadors in Great Britain, and have not ceased to take an interest in our country's affairs long after their terms of office expired. I may say, with respect to Lord Lorne and his royal wife that by their devotion to duty, they became endeared to the Canadian people, and will long be remembered with grateful affection by the inhabitants of this Dominion. In the case of Lord Dufferin, he equally won the affection of the people of Canada, and the contributions made to the Dominion's welfare, not only while he held office here but since his return to the Mother Country, will be gratefully recorded and remembered by our people. I am sure that in the great diplomatic triumphs achieved by Lord Dufferin since his departure from amongst us, no one has taken a greater interest than the people of Canada, no matter whether those efforts were directed to the pacification of the Egyptian, to the over-awing of the Czar, or the outwitting of the Turk—in all his endeavors he has had the sympathy and interest of the Canadian people. And I am sure that after the term of office of the present Governor-General, though it is rather premature to refer to that now, he, by his efforts here and work hereafter, will have equally succeeded in winning the best opinions of the Canadian people. The Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, is of an eminently practical character. It may be divided into two main headings: first relating to administration, and second relating to proposed legislation. In this country the people and the representatives of the people are occupied with practical questions—questions intimately connected with the development of the country, with the building up of provinces, with the pacific work of civilization. In older countries, like the Mother Country, great interest may be excited over the mere discussion as to whether there should be an extra penny imposed on a quart of malt, but here our questions for discussion are broader, and I would fain believe, are more important, because I think it is more important to have a part in the moulding of a new and great nation than in discussing what are in many respects the petty affairs of older nations. I do not mean to disparage the important concerns of the Mother Country, but I do say that many of the warmest debates in her Parliament are upon subjects which, in this country, would appear of comparatively trifling moment. Among the subjects of administration upon which the country may fairly be congratulated are, first, the success which Canada had at the International Fisheries Exhibition, in London. It certainly should be a subject of congratulation for the Canadian people that by the indefatigable exertions of the Government, and more especially of the Minister who had charge of the Canadian exhibits, Canada obtained the second highest number of medals in that important competition—the United States obtaining first place—our country thereby acquiring an advertisement before the world of her great wealth and the great extent of her fisheries. The work of the consolidation of the Statutes affecting Canada has steadily progressed. This is a work which will greatly facilitate the labours of those who have occasion to refer to these Statutes, and I am sure that the assurance that it will be completed by the next Session of Parliament is one which will be received with feelings of gratification by all who take an interest in this subject. During the year, provisional arrangements have been made by the Government with the Governments of Nova Scotia and British Columbia, respectively; the first relating to the retention of the Pictou Branch of the Intercolonial Railway and the acquisition of the Eastern Extension Railway to the Strait of Canso. It is believed that this section of the road may be more efficiently managed in connection with the Intercolonial Railway, and that by this arrangement, which is favourable not only to the Province of Nova Scotia, but also to the Dominion, a more efficient train service will be secured to the people