

that, without undue pressure on the people, it may suffice to maintain the public credit, and may work advantageously for the commerce and productive industry of the country. It is also a source of pleasure to me to find that a measure relaxing, in some degree, the restriction on the interest of money, so much desired by the commercial community, has been favorably considered by you.

I thank you for the supplies which you have granted to Her Majesty, and I assure you that I will not fail to use all due vigilance and economy in the regulation of the several departments, and the administration of the funds entrusted to me.

*Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen :*

I regret that I cannot speak of the commercial crisis which has pressed on the country as something which has entirely passed away. The recovery from such difficulties must be gradual ; but I earnestly pray that the complete restoration of our prosperity may not be long delayed.

I will not fail to forward to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen your address relating to the territory of the *Hudson's Bay Company*, as well as that which solicits Her consideration for the scheme of the Inter-colonial Railway.

I propose, in the course of the recess, to communicate with Her Majesty's Government, and with the Governments of our sister Colonies, on another matter of very great importance. I am desirous of inviting them to discuss with us the principles on which a bond of a federal character uniting the Provinces of British North America may perhaps hereafter be practicable.

I now release you from your labours by proroguing the present Parliament.

Then the Speaker of this House said :—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :*

*and*

*Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly :*

It is His Excellency the Governor General's will and pleasure that this Provincial Parliament be prorogued until Saturday, the twenty-fifth day of September next, to be here held, and this Provincial Parliament is accordingly prorogued until Saturday, the twenty-fifth day of September next.

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