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assure His Excellency that we are grateful to His Excellency for the expression of his confidence in recurring to our advice, and of his satisfaction in being enabled on the present occasion, to summons us to the discharge of our public duties at the period of the year most convenient to ourselves.

2. That we feel, with His Excellency, that the circumstances under which we meet are, in many respects, auspicious. The Bounty of Providence having crowned the Harvest with abundance, and made the Fisheries unusually productive, in many districts existing industries have been enlarged, and new enterprises have started into activity, furnishing fresh avenues for Commerce, and additional employment for our people; whilst every day new sections of the country are being opened to the labors of the husbandman. And that we have pleasure in believing that the trade and wealth of the Dominion are on the increase, and that the equal administration of the laws maintains, as heretofore, the enjoyment of a general sense of security.

3. That we are aware that His Excellency must have watched, with much anxiety, the course of events in the North-West Territories, unfortunate misapprehensions of the intentions with which the country was sought to be acquired by *Canada*, having led to complications of a grave character. That we agree with His Excellency, that, with a view to their removal, it is desirable to exhaust every means of conciliation, before adopting other measures; and that we are glad to learn that the latest advices lead His Excellency to expect that the groundless alarms entertained by a portion of the inhabitants, have given place to a desire to listen to the explanations which he has caused to be made to them. That we trust that the efforts made by His Excellency's Government will not fail to accomplish an equitable and peaceful solution of the existing difficulty, and thereby secure the speedy incorporation of the North West Territories with *Canada*, an object so earnestly desired by the Empire and the Dominion.

4. That we shall give our best attention to any measure providing for the Government of these Territories when united with *Canada*, which may be submitted to us in place of the present Act, which will expire at the close of the present Session.

5. That inasmuch as the Charters of most of the Banks of the Dominion were, last Session, extended for a limited period, with the view that during the interval the questions of Banking and Currency should receive the consideration which their importance demands, we shall give our earnest attention to any measure intended to ensure safety to the community, without interfering with the legitimate operations of the Banks which His Excellency may cause to be submitted for our consideration, and which, we trust, will be found calculated to place those important interests upon a sound and stable basis.

6. That we are aware that the laws in force on the subject of the Elective Franchise, and the regulation of the Parliamentary Elections in the several Provinces of the Dominion, vary much in their operations, and that it is important that uniform provisions should be made, settling the Franchise and regulating Elections to the House of Commons. And that we shall carefully consider any measure upon this subject which may be submitted to us.

7. That we thank His Excellency for reminding us, that under the operation of an Act of the Imperial Parliament, passed in the year 1869, to amend the laws relating to the Coasting Trade and Merchant Shipping in British Possessions, a period of two years is given to the Legislature of the several Colonies of the Empire to make provision for the regulation of their Coasting Trade, and that in the absence of legislation on the subject, within the period named, the provisions of the Imperial Law will be in force. The extent and value of our internal commerce render legislation on this subject desirable, and we shall give our best attention to any measure with regard to it which may be submitted for our consideration.

8. That we agree with His Excellency, that the creation of a Court of Appeal under the powers conferred upon us by the Union Act, is a matter well deserving our attention. And that we shall not fail attentively to consider any measure submitted to us for the establishment of such a Court, and for conferring upon it certain original jurisdiction.