

THE DEBATES  
OF THE  
SENATE OF CANADA

IN THE

THIRD SESSION OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA,  
APPOINTED TO MEET FOR DESPATCH OF BUSINESS ON THURSDAY,  
THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, IN THE FIFTY-  
SECOND YEAR OF THE REIGN OF

HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

THE SENATE.

*Ottawa, Thursday, 31st January, 1889.*

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 2:30 p.m.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

NEW SENATORS INTRODUCED.

The SPEAKER presented to the House a Return from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, setting forth that His Excellency the Governor General had summoned to the Senate—

WM. DELL PERLEY, Esq., of the Town of Wolseley, N.W.T.

JAMES REID, Esq., of the Town of Quesnelle, B.C.

JOHN PRICE, Esq., of the City of Quebec, P.Q.

GEORGE ALEX. DRUMMOND, Esq., of the City of Montreal, P. Q.

CHAS. SERAPHIN RODIER, Esq., of the City of Montreal, P.Q.

Hon. Messrs. DRUMMOND, RODIER and PERLEY were then introduced and took their seats.

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir Frederick Arthur Stanley, Baron Stanley of Preston, in the County of Lancaster, in the Peerage of Great Britain, Knight of the Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General of Canada, and Vice Admiral of the same, being seated in the Chair on the Throne.

The Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint the House,—“ It is His Excellency's pleasure they attend him immediately in this House.”

Who, being come with their Speaker, His Excellency the Governor General was then pleased to open the Session by the following gracious Speech to both Houses :—

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

In addressing the Parliament of Canada for the first time, in fulfilment of the important trust which has been committed to me as Her Majesty's Representative, I desire to express the satisfaction with which I resort to your advice and assistance.

I am conscious of the honor which attends my association with your labors for the welfare of the Dominion, and it will be my earnest endeavor to co-operate with you, to the utmost of my power, in all that may promote the prosperity of the people of this country, the development of her material resources, and the maintenance of the constitutionalities which unite her Provinces.

It is to be regretted that the treaty concluded between Her Majesty and the President of the United States for the adjustment of the questions which have arisen with reference to “ The Fisheries,” has not been sanctioned by the United States Senate, in whom the power of ratification is vested ; and that our legislation of last year on the subject is therefore in a great measure inoperative.

It now only remains for Canada to continue to maintain her rights as prescribed by the Convention of 1818, until some satisfactory re-adjustment is arranged by treaty between the two nations.

A measure will again be submitted to you to amend the Acts respecting the Electoral Franchise, for the purpose of simplifying the law and lessening the cost of its operation.

It is expedient, in the interest of commerce, to assimilate, and in some particulars to amend, the laws which now obtain in the several Provinces of the Dominion relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques and Promissory Notes ; and a Bill with this object will be laid before you.