

The Order of the Day being read for the consideration of His Excellency's Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Fourth Session of the Seventh Parliament.

The Honourable Mr. Ferguson (P.E.I.) moved, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Casgrain,

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to offer the respectful thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament, namely :—

To HIS EXCELLENCY Right Honourable Sir JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON-GORDON, Earl of Aberdeen; Viscount Formartine, Baron Haddo, Methlic, Tarves and Kellie, in the Peerage of Scotland; Viscount Gordon of Aberdeen, County of Aberdeen, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom; Baronet of Nova Scotia; Governor General of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for your gracious Speech at the opening of the Session.

We gratefully acknowledge the greeting which Your Excellency has given us in the Queen's name, for the first time since assuming the high functions intrusted to you by Her Majesty; and we rejoice to hear that it is with feelings of the liveliest satisfaction you thus meet us assembled for the labours of another session of Parliament.

We are deeply gratified to feel that this satisfaction is enhanced by the opportunities which Your Excellency has already enjoyed of visiting, and in your official capacity renewing acquaintance with, several of the chief centres of the enterprise and activity of this Dominion; to receive your assurance that you have been deeply impressed by the heartiness of the reception accorded to you as Her Majesty's Viceroy and Representative; and that you recognize in this reception one more manifestation of the loyalty, the cordiality and the public spirit of the Canadian people.

Your Excellency's predecessor was able to express gratification to us last year, on an increase in trade and on the continued progress of the Dominion. It is gratifying to us to observe that the expectation then formed—that the volume of trade during the then current year would exceed that of any year in the history of the Dominion—has been fully realized, and that Canada's progress continues with every mark of stability and permanence.

We hear with satisfaction Your Excellency's statement that a large proportion of this increase is shown to have been due to an extension of our commerce with Great Britain.

We cordially agree with Your Excellency that it is a cause of thankfulness that our people have been spared in a very great degree from the sufferings which have visited the populations of some other countries during many months past, and that while the commercial depression prevailing abroad could not but affect the activity of business in the Dominion, we have been free from any extensive financial disaster or widespread distress.

We are glad to be informed that the revenues of the year have been ample for the services which we provided for, and have met the expectations on which the appropriations of last year were based.

We rejoice that the peaceful conclusion, by the award of the arbitrators at Paris, of the controversy which had prevailed so long, with respect to the Seal Fisheries in the Pacific Ocean and the rights of British subjects in the Behring Sea, has removed the only source of contention which existed between Great Britain and the United States with regard to Canada. We are also pleased to be informed that