

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

The accounts of the past year will be laid before you.

The Estimates of the next financial year will also be submitted, and will, I trust, be found to be framed with a view to meet the existing circumstances of the country, while at the same time, providing for carrying on the administration of affairs with efficiency.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :**Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I place full reliance on your prudence and ability, and your devotion to the work of legislation, which, I trust, may be carried on and completed in such a way as to minister to the prosperity of the country, and the unity of the people.

His Excellency was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT presented a Bill, intituled "An Act relating to Railways," which was read for the first time.

The Hon. The Speaker reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same was then read by the Clerk.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY, that the House do take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to-morrow.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY, that all Members present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the orders and customs of this House and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in this House, when and as often as they please.—Carried.

The Hon. The Speaker presented to the House the Report of the Librarian on the state of the Library of Parliament.

The House then adjourned.

NEW MEMBER.

FRIDAY, Feb. 9.

Hon. Mr. Pozer was introduced by Hon. Messrs. Pelletier and Penny.

THE ADDRESS.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved the order of the day, "Consideration of His Excellency's Speech on opening Parliament."

Hon. Mr. HOPE—I rise for the purpose of moving an humble address in answer to the speech of His Excellency. I think hon. gentlemen must all feel gratified that the period of the year chosen for the meeting of Parliament is perhaps the most convenient season. The second clause in the speech refers to His Excellency's visit to British

Columbia, and I am sure that all hon. gentlemen must feel an earnest wish that all difficulties in connection with the railway across the continent should be settled at an early day. There can be only one wish, that the inhabitants of British Columbia shall be satisfied with the efforts that have been made by the Government to carry out, at the earliest possible period, their views with regard to the railway system in connection with the Pacific Railroad. The next clause that I come to refers to the surveys of the Pacific Railway. I suppose we are all agreed that the sooner this road is built the better. It seems to me the Government are willing to use every possible precaution to select the best road, and it is gratifying to know that every effort is being made to ascertain the best possible route. Honorable gentlemen must have regretted the suspension of the Extradition Treaty, situated as we are so near the United States. It was a misfortune to both countries. We are glad to know that suspension is now at an end, and there is a probability of a treaty being negotiated which will embrace more classes of crimes and criminals. There is also mention made with regard to certain anomalies in the royal instructions to the Governor General, and it is gratifying to know those will soon be amended as they require to be. It is also gratifying to know that considerable progress has been made with the works connected with the navigation of the St. Lawrence and the canals on that great river, during the past season. We are also told that the contracts on the Lachine and Welland canals are nearly all given out with some trifling exceptions. Expectation is expressed that the outlay on those works may ultimately pay. For my own part I have never considered the direct return of so much consequence as the indirect advantages which the country derives from the construction of those great public works. I would instance, for example, the great line of Allan steamers, which are the admiration of the civilized world, which would not be in existence to-day but for the Welland Canal. The country has derived great benefit from this and other lines that have been brought into existence by the same great work. His Excellency refers to the completion of the Intercolonial Railway, and it must be very gratifying to hon. gentlemen to know that this road is at last open for traffic. It is a long time since it was first talked of. I remember over 40 years ago when a connection of my own family was employed to run a line from St. Andrew's on the Bay of Fundy to Quebec. That was