

duction of uniform Laws respecting Patents of Invention and Discovery,—the naturalization of Aliens,—and the assimilations of the Criminal Law, and the Laws relating to Bankruptcy and Insolvency.

A measure will also be submitted to you, for the performance of the duty imposed upon Canada, under the terms of the Union Act, of immediately constructing the Intercolonial Railway.

This great work will add a practical and physical connection to the legislative bond which now unites the Provinces comprising the Dominion, and the liberality with which the guarantee for the cost of its construction was given by the Imperial Parliament is a new proof of the hearty interest felt by the British people in your prosperity.

Your consideration will also be invited to the important subject of Western Territorial extension, and your attention will be called to the best means for the protection and development of our Fisheries and Marine interests.

You will also be asked to consider measures defining the privileges of Parliament and for the establishment of uniform laws relating to elections, and the trial of controverted elections.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—

The circumstances under which the Act of Union came into operation, rendered it impossible to obtain the assent of the Legislature to the expenditure necessary for carrying on the ordinary business of the Government.

The expenditure since the first of July has therefore been incurred on the responsibility of Ministers of the Crown.

The details of that expenditure will be laid before you, and submitted for your sanction.

I have directed that the estimates for the current and succeeding Financial Year shall be laid before you. You will find that they have been framed with all the attention to economy which is compatible with the maintenance of efficiency in the different branches of the public service.

Honourable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,—

The general organization and efficiency of the Volunteers and Militia have been great-

ly improved within the last year, and the whole Volunteer Force of Ontario and Quebec is already, by the liberality of the Imperial Government, armed with the breech-loading Rifle.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the abundant harvest with which it has pleased Providence to bless you, and on the general prosperity of the Dominion.

Your new nationality enters on its course backed by the moral support—the material aid—and the most ardent good wishes of the Mother Country. Within your own borders peace, security and prosperity prevail, and I fervently pray that your aspirations may be directed to such high and patriotic objects, and that you may be endowed with such a spirit of moderation and wisdom as will cause you to render the great work of Union which has been achieved, a blessing to yourselves and your posterity, and a fresh starting point in the moral, political and material advancement of the people of Canada.

After His Excellency had repeated the speech in French the Commons retired.

After the retirement of the Commons upon the conclusion of the reading of the Speech from the Throne, the usual motion *pro forma* having been read,

Hon. Mr. Campbell moved that all the members present be a committee to decide upon matters of privilege, etc. In doing so he alluded to the peculiarity of the Senate's position, in being a completely new body, but had no doubt that the rules which governed the late Legislative Council of Canada would be most applicable to them. For the present it was advisable that the previous rules, governing the Legislative Council, which were very complete, should *ad interim* govern them. The business of the Senate, in one sense, would be considerably lighter than that which had devolved on the Legislative Council of Canada, as there would necessarily be a great diminution of private legislation. He also moved, seconded by Mr. Blair, that a special Committee, to prepare rules of order and debate, be appointed, consisting of Messrs. Blair, Tessier, McCully, Botsford, Sanborn, and the mover, which was carried by acclamation, and the House adjourned until three o'clock p.m. on Monday next.