

perience as a member of the British House of Commons, his known ability, his high artistic taste, his knowledge of the world, and appreciation of the institutions of the neighbouring Republic, we must admit that they combine to render his administration beneficial to the country. I have no doubt, Sir, that when it closes we will find that the material interests of this country have been considerably enhanced, and that the prosperity, unity, and I may say, if that is possible, the loyalty of the people will be greatly increased and sustained. Our gracious Queen in sending in our midst one of her illustrious daughters, Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, has reposed a confidence in us that I am sure will be hailed by this honourable House, and the people at large, with feelings of pride and satisfaction. Although the sojourn of the Princess has been of very short duration, yet, from her amiable character, affability and sweetness of disposition and manners, she has already won the affection and esteem of the people of Canada. Her high accomplishments, artistic attainments, and the interest she has taken in the benevolent and charitable institutions of the Mother Country, having for the object the amelioration and education of the poorer classes, are an earnest of the benefits that will accrue from the sojourn of Her Royal Highness in this Dominion, and that, like her estimable predecessor the Countess of Dufferin, she will prove herself to be a true friend to every class of this people irrespective of their social position. I believe that when the administration of His Excellency the Governor General will have been brought to a close, it will have proved so beneficial to the best interests of the Dominion that the people of Canada will be called upon to witness that trying spectacle that was witnessed upon the departure of that eminent statesman and true-hearted friend of Canada the late Governor-General, and that the deep regrets at the loss of such a distinguished Governor-General will be as cordially and warmly repeated when His Excellency and his Royal Consort will be called upon to leave our shores and rejoin their illustrious kinsfolk in the Mother Country.

The next paragraph is one, Sir, that is fraught with interest to the people of this Dominion. It expresses satisfaction that the contributions of Canadian products and manufactures to the great International Exhibition at Paris last year had attracted much attention, and, it is believed, it will have a beneficial effect upon the trade and commerce of this country. Sir, it is almost impossible to estimate the real value that flows from contests of this kind with countries met in the peaceful rivalries of trade and commerce. It must be a source of great satisfaction to this House to reflect that this young country, with its sparse population, and with all its drawbacks, should have been able to attain such a proud position among the older competitors at that world's fair. It is also a matter of very great pleasure to the loyal people of Canada to know that that success has been to a certain extent aided by the kindness, energy, and attention which has been devoted to our interests by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. It is a gratifying spectacle to witness the heir to the British Crown mingling with the subjects of his Royal Mother, and, by his energy and example, inciting them to emulation in these peaceful contests and occupying among nations a proud position in trade and commerce. I am sure, when we see a member of the royal family so identifying himself with the true interests of the country, that it will tend, in a very great degree, to increase that feeling of loyal affection and attachment that has ever distinguished British subjects towards their Sovereign. I am sure it must be a matter of satisfaction to this House to know that this long-vexed question affecting the Fishery Claims, under the Washington Treaty, have at last been concluded. I am aware, coming from the Maritime Provinces, from my own personal observation and experience, that this question has been of a very heart-burning character, and it is a very great satisfaction to know that this vexed question has been settled peacefully and amicably by the means of arbitration. I am also aware that, when the award was made known, it did not give entire satisfaction to our Republican neighbours, and that they thought the award was excessive. The award, I believe, has been