

enfranchisement of Indians and the management of Indian affairs have been fully considered, and steps have been taken to ascertain the views of the Indians themselves, and that a measure on this subject will be submitted for our approval.

We thank Your Excellency for informing us also that a measure will be introduced to provide for the better administration of the estates of Insolvent Banks.

We are grateful to Your Excellency for the promise that Correspondence, Reports and other papers, regarding the construction of the Pacific Railway, will be laid before us.

We receive with great interest the statement made to us by Your Excellency that during the recess a deputation from the Government of Manitoba visited Ottawa to invite the attention of the Government of the Dominion to the circumstances of that Province, and that they represented that the income of the Province was insufficient to provide for its ordinary Governmental expenses; that the papers on this subject will be laid before us, and certain propositions will be submitted for our consideration; and that the Legislature of Manitoba has in the meantime adopted some measures to reduce the expenditure of the Province.

We heartily respond to Your Excellency's invitation by promising Your Excellency that we shall give our earnest attention to the several subjects mentioned, and to the general business which will come before us, and we trust, with your Excellency, that our deliberations may be guided by wisdom and moderation.

Hon. Mr. LEONARD—In seconding the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, I will assume that my hon. friend has taken all the points in connection with it, and disposed of them to the satisfaction of the House. This is gratifying to me, as I will not have to make a long speech. The Speech from the Throne is always supposed to indicate the line of policy to be taken up during the session, and we find that we have not been promised anything startling in the way of legislation, which to my mind is much better for the country than the other extreme. I might remark that the great and important questions connected with the consolidation of this Union have been pretty well disposed of, although they will come up from time to time.

The first paragraph in the speech is in relation to Lord Dufferin's visit to England. I am sure the House, and the

country too, will be highly gratified at the handsome manner in which he spoke of us Canadians. His speeches seemed to have the real Canadian ring about them, and I am sure they were gratifying to every Canadian. The second paragraph refers to the industries of the country. It is to be regretted that certain interests have suffered more or less during the last year, but when we reflect that these interests are more or less affected in foreign countries we may conclude it is beyond our reach. At the same time, it is gratifying to know that our agricultural interests are prospering, and it is to be presumed that it will only be a short time that other interests will remain in a depressed state. All Governments are troubled more or less with these periods of depression. Our revenues have fallen off, and the Government will have to provide for it, but it is also a source of congratulation that we are not falling more into debt, so that we will only have to wait for a time to get round to the same state of prosperity that we had before. The third paragraph refers to the Intercolonial Railway. I am sure this House and the country generally, will be gratified to know that that link of union between the Provinces is about to be completed, and that the road is about to be opened up during the coming summer. It is one of the schemes of confederation that is about to be accomplished. Like all other great public works, it took double the time and the expenditure contemplated when it was originated. In connection with that, it is gratifying that the Prince Edward Island Railway is complete and in operation, and I hope steps will soon be taken to connect these roads by some means of communication between the mainland and the island. The fourth paragraph refers more particularly to the fisheries question, which it appears has not been settled, although from the intimation given in the Speech, it is clear that Canada has done her part; and it is important that our friends on the other side should come up to the standard which we have set up in trying to close this matter. It is calculated to create a distrust and disturb the friendly feelings that exist between the two countries, that such an important question should remain undetermined, and it is to be hoped that steps will be taken to settle matters in a manner satisfactory to all parties. The fifth paragraph relates to the Supreme Court.