

and that the rapid increase in the trade of Canada, and the importance of competing for and accommodating the commerce of the Great West, render it necessary that the means of transport by water should be cheapened and facilitated. As requested by Your Excellency we will give our serious consideration to this subject, and in connection with it to the expediency of providing a direct water communication between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy.

The decennial Census having been taken last year, and the duty of re-adjusting the representation in Parliament of the four Provinces originally constituting the Dominion, having devolved upon Parliament now, according to the terms of the Union Act, we shall not fail to give our best attention to the measure for the purpose which Your Excellency is pleased to inform us will be submitted for our consideration.

Our attentive consideration will also be given to the Bills relating to the Judges of Superior Courts, to the regulation and management of the Public Lands and Mines of the Dominion in Manitoba and the North West Territories, and for the amendment of the laws relating to the Public Health, which Your Excellency has also been pleased to say will be presented to us, among other measures.

We are grateful to Your Excellency for the expression of your satisfaction in recurring to our counsel and assistance at this period; and we beg leave to reciprocate Your Excellency's congratulations on the general prosperity of the country, and the fortunate issue of the steps taken to unite and consolidate the vast territories which now form the Dominion.

Your Excellency may rest assured that we shall continue to devote the same assiduity as in the past to the augmented labors which the exigencies of more numerous constituencies and a wider sphere of operations demand at our hands; and we unite with Your Excellency in earnestly praying that our efforts in the path of duty may be so happily guided as to maintain peace and justice in all the borders of the land, and ensure the happiness and lasting welfare of all classes of its inhabitants.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON, said in seconding the Address, that it was not necessary that he should detain the House at any length after the very eloquent remarks that had fallen from the gentleman who had preceded him. He might say at the outset that he thought the House might safely assume that the people of the Do-

minion had great cause for thankfulness when they considered the state of Canada as a whole. There was one subject on which there could be no difference of opinion—namely, the auspicious recovery of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, which was a subject for rejoicing to the people of every part of the British Empire. The state of the finances was exceedingly satisfactory, and he had no doubt that with judicious management there would be no necessity for increasing the burthens of the people of the Dominion. The revenue of the country appeared to be perfectly sufficient at the present time, not only for the ordinary expenses of the Dominion generally, but for the purpose of extending and improving the communications of the Dominion by means of Canals and Railways. He hoped that the scheme for the encouragement of Immigration would lead to the early settlement of our newly acquired possessions, and no effort should be wanting to carry out this object so indispensable to the progress of a young country.

Hon. Mr. JETELLIER DE ST. JUST said that it was not his intention to provoke discussion after the remarks that had fallen from the two gentlemen who had just resumed their seats. He congratulated the House on the presence of the members from Manitoba and British Columbia, and there could be no doubt in the minds of any one that they would render very valuable assistance to the work of legislation. He was confident that the remarks made by the hon. gentleman from Manitoba—that the people were deeply attached to British institutions—were heard with peculiar satisfaction by the House, and would be read with pleasure by the people of the whole Dominion, who had no other desire than to see that section peaceful and prosperous. He hoped that whenever the Government took measures for connecting Canada with British Columbia, they would adhere to the resolution they had brought up in the other branch—that the line should be constructed, not at the expense of the Dominion, but through the agency of companies (hear, hear, from Ministerial benches). In conclusion he expressed his hope that the Government—and he referred especially to the Minister for Marine and Fisheries—would take speedy measures to improve the navigation of the St. Lawrence, so as to prevent such casualties as occurred last year.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY said that since the controversial discussion had arisen it would be a breach of Parliamentary eti-