

metals, rich in coal, rich in timber, rich in fish, whose valleys are natural pastures. A country that, with its enormous resources, must here long take its stand amongst the foremost Provinces of the Dominion.

Apart from the natural, the inherent wealth of the Province, you have by this connection secured an outlet for commerce on the Pacific seaboard, which must afford incalculable advantages and moreover such a measure was necessary as one of the steps in forming a compact nation out of a number of disunited Provinces which, with adverse interests, and with local prejudices and no machinery for counteracting these prejudicial influences, would never have commanded attention and respect, or gained that degree of prosperity which to-day characterizes the Dominion.

I need not say the House is fully prepared to make provision for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in accordance with the terms of union with British Columbia, as it is in fact a work of vital importance to the welfare of the Dominion.

Among the many advantages we may expect from the building of that road is the populating of the Great North-West, a country surpassing any on the continent as a wheat-producing district, and the giving to that fertile land markets both on the Atlantic and Pacific shores of this continent. It will further offer us the means of competing for, and probably securing the bulk of the trade between Europe and Asia, which must bring to the Dominion great accession of wealth, and so enable her to occupy the place to which she is entitled by her vast territory and favorable geographical position.

It is a source of gratification to learn that the preliminary survey of this road has been vigorously prosecuted. The extension of the canal system was a work of great importance, as well as a question of settling public lands in Manitoba and the North West Territory. The increase of the revenue of the Dominion was a matter for congratulation, indeed such increase was the best index of the general prosperity of the Dominion, for which the country was not a little indebted to the financial policy of the Government (*Hear, hear.*) It was highly gratifying to know that the work of consolidating the various Provinces had been carried out in a constitutional manner.

The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid hearty applause.

Mr. CARTER: It would be impossible to find in the history of any Colonial Legislature that subjects of greater importance than those alluded to in his Excellency's speech have been submitted for consideration.

Of the many important subjects alluded to, I believe there is not one which commends itself more warmly and strongly to honorable members than the reference which has been made to the recovery of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the appointment of a day of thanksgiving. All parties, without distinction as to nationality, religion, or political creed, will give a hearty response to the words of His Excellency. We should feel it our duty to return our thanks

that it has pleased Providence to avert the threatened danger, and to restore to health the heir to the British Throne.

The next paragraph in the speech alludes to the postponement of the meeting of Parliament, and I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that we shall find that the delay was prompted by a desire to serve the best interests of the country.

The recent invasion of the young Province of Manitoba by lawless persons from the United States is next referred to, and we have reason to congratulate the country on the prompt and successful measures for resistance taken by the local authorities and by the Government in sending aid to the inhabitants of the Province in order to prevent any recurrence of similar troubles.

To the volunteers themselves too much praise cannot be given for the prompt and efficient manner in which they discharged their duty at a season of the year when it was considered almost impossible for them to surmount the difficulties of a march to Fort Garry.

The importance of the Treaty of Washington cannot be overrated. He must look back to the time anterior to the events which took place, and which resulted in the appointment of the High Commission. There was a great feeling of anxiety in the country owing to the unsettled state of the relations between England and the United States. Fortunately the clouds of war which threatened us have been dispersed, and the effect has been a quietening of the public mind and a restoration of the trade of the country.

It would be premature to enter into a discussion of the details; the time for that will be when the papers are brought down. It is evident, however, from the manner in which the treaty was framed that England had every desire to extend her protection to Canada, and to sustain us in our undoubted rights, and I think that we have reason to congratulate ourselves, that Her Majesty should have selected as Commissioner that distinguished statesman, Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald.

The subject of immigration is of such vast importance, and so intimately connected with the development of the country and its resources, that it should command the earnest attention of the Government. In connection with the extension of our canal system, the construction of a Pacific Railway and other public works, this question must also be considered of great importance.

With reference to the recent acquisition of British Columbia, I think that I am expressing the feelings of all when I say that we have reason to congratulate ourselves upon the event, and that we have now among us representatives of that distant Province.

From the statements made to us by the gentleman who so ably moved the Address (Mr. Nathan), we cannot doubt that the acquisition of British Columbia is of such vast importance to the new Dominion that it will well repay any outlay by the country in