

RAILWAYS BILL.

FIRST READING.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL introduced a Bill intituled "An Act relating to Railways."

The Bill was read the first time.

THE ADDRESS.

MOTION.

The SPEAKER reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne and the same was then read by the Clerk.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL moved that the House do take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

THE LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT.

REPORT.

The SPEAKER presented the Report of the Acting Librarian on the state of the Library of Parliament.

The Report having been read, it was ordered that the same do lie on the table.

The Senate adjourned 4.30 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Friday, January 30th, 1885.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock p.m.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE ADDRESS.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—I have much pleasure in moving that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

I think, hon. gentlemen, the Speech may be justly considered very satisfactory as indicating the position of the country,

the satisfactory condition of the revenue, and the many useful measures on which we are invited to legislate during the present session.

We must all feel gratified in the assurance and knowledge that the country has been blessed with a bountiful harvest, and that peace and plenty prevail in all parts of the Dominion—the highest blessings which can be obtained, and which are the aim of all countries to attain.

Although peace may reign within our own immediate borders, yet we cannot help feeling deep interest and great anxiety in the affairs of the Empire, and that her wars and troubles are shared in by the Dominion of Canada; that what sheds a lustre on the Empire sheds a lustre on us, and that any reverse or loss of prestige she may suffer, would be deeply felt by this, the oldest and most important colony of Great Britain. May the Empire prosper wherever her flag floats.

In looking at the trade position of the country we must hold in view the very great extent to which the commercial relations of all civilized nations are interwoven, and that any disturbance of trade of an upward or downward tendency in any one country soon acts on the others, and this sensitive feeling is clearly illustrated in this country. The condition of trade in England, the United States and the West Indies, (for which we cannot be held responsible), has affected us most injuriously. Canada being a large producer of corn, meat, fish and timber must, to make her prosperous, have foreign markets—and when, unfortunately, the markets of those three countries, England, the United States and the West Indies, which are our chief customers, are closed to us by the depressed condition of trade in those countries, we must look for a corresponding state of things in the Dominion, and we may consider ourselves fortunate that we stand as well as we do in the face of such circumstances.

It has been said, and no doubt will be said again, that our fiscal policy is at the root of our present depression, that our manufactures are over-stimulated, the result being over-production, warehouses over stocked, and low markets.

I deny that our fiscal system is the cause of any such condition—in proof of which I will instance England, which