

burne, Viscount Clanmaurice and Fitzmaurice, Baron of Kerry, Lixnaw and Dunkerron, in the Perrage of Ireland; Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Governor-General of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for your gracious Speech at the opening of this Session, and especially for Your Excellency's expression of gratification at meeting us once more at the commencement of the Parliamentary Session, and of congratulation upon the general prosperity of the country.

We rejoice to learn that, although the labors of the husbandman have not been rewarded in some portions of the Dominion by an adequate return, the harvest of last year has on the whole been plentiful, while in Manitoba and the North-West Territories it was one of remarkable abundance.

We receive with deep satisfaction the information Your Excellency has been pleased to give us that the negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States for the adjustment of what is known as "The Fishery Question" have resulted in a Treaty which doubtless will justify Your Excellency's hope that it will be considered honorable and satisfactory to both nations.

We thank Your Excellency for informing us that the Treaty, with the papers and correspondence relating thereto, will be laid before us, and we respectfully assure Your Excellency that any measure to give effect to its provisions shall receive our most earnest and careful consideration.

We have received with a full sense of its importance Your Excellency's statement that the extension and development of our system of railways have not only rendered necessary additional safeguards for life and property, but have given greater frequency to questions in which the interests of rival companies are found to be in conflict, and to require authoritative adjustment, and that, as further legislation appears to be needed for these purposes, a measure will be submitted to us for the consolidation and improvement of "The Railway Act."

We are pleased to learn that experience having shown that amendments are required to make the provisions of the Act respecting Elections of the Members of the House of Commons more effective and more convenient in their operation, we will be asked to consider a measure for the amendment of that Statute.

We receive with interest the information that the Act respecting Controverted Elections may likewise require attention, with a view to the removal of certain questions of interpretation which have arisen and which should be set at rest.

We are glad to be informed further that your Excellency's Government has availed itself of the opportunity afforded by the recess to consider the numerous suggestions which have been made for improving the details of the Act respecting the Electoral Franchise, and that a measure will be submitted to us for the purpose of simplifying the law and greatly lessening the cost of its operation.

It is with the greatest gratification we hear that that the growth of the North-West Territories renders expedient an improvement in the system of government and legislation affecting those portions of the Dominion, and that a Bill for that purpose will be laid before us.

We hear with much interest that a Bill will be submitted to us to make a larger portion of the modern laws of England applicable to the Province of Manitoba and to the North-West Territories in regard to matters which are within the control of the Parliament of Canada, but which have not as yet been made the subject of Canadian legislation.

We thank Your Excellency for the information that, among other measures, Bills will be presented to us relating to the Judiciary, to the Civil Service Act, and to the audit of the Public accounts.

Your Excellency having been graciously pleased to commend these important subjects and all matters affecting the public interests which may be brought before us to our best consideration, Your Excellency may rest assured that we will address ourselves to them with earnestness and assiduity.

He said—(in French)—In rising to move the adoption of the Resolutions for an Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, I have to thank this House for the honor which they confer upon me. The Address speaks of the general prosperity of the country, and presents a picture which must be agreeable to all of us. It is probable, if current rumours are true, that this is the last time that we shall hear the voice of the distinguished nobleman who now represents Her Majesty in this country, delivering a Speech from the Throne. I am sure that I express the feelings entertained by this House, and by the country, when I say that we recognize in the present Governor-General a distinguished statesman, whose social and diplomatic position merits the esteem, respect and admiration of the Dominion. His Excellency will take with him from Canada the respect and gratitude of all true Canadians, and I am sure that when the time arrives this House and Parlia-