

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

The Accounts of the last year will be laid before you. It will be satisfactory to you to find that the Expenditure has been less and the Revenue considerably more than the Estimates of last year, leaving a surplus of over four millions of dollars. A portion of this sum has been used in the reduction of the public debt by the redemption of matured debentures bearing six per cent. interest, and the remainder applied to the payment for public works chargeable to capital account. The necessity of issuing the Debenture Loan authorized by Parliament for those purposes has therefore been obviated.

The Estimates of the ensuing year will also be submitted, and will, I trust, be found to have been framed with due regard to economy and the efficiency of the public service.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :**Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

I now invite your attention to the several subjects mentioned and to the general business which will come before you, with full confidence in your ability and patriotic desire to forward the best interests of the country.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

The House resumed.

The Honorable Sir *Alexander Campbell* presented to the House, a Bill intituled :  
"An Act relating to Railways,"

The said Bill was read for the first time.

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

On motion of the Honorable Sir *Alexander Campbell*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Hamilton (Kingston)*, it was

*Ordered*, That the House do take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to-morrow.

On motion of the Honorable Sir *Alexander Campbell*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Hamilton (Kingston)*, it was

*Ordered*, That all the Members present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of this House and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in this House, when and as often as they please.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Sir *Alexander Campbell*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Hamilton (Kingston)*,

The House adjourned.