

cattle, for a short period, and that it is hoped that ere long the disease will be extinguished in the *United States*, and the necessity for continuing the prohibition removed. Our careful attention will be given, when invited, to an amendment of the Act referred to by Your Excellency.

We receive with great gratification the announcement that Your Excellency's Government has commenced negotiations, with Her Majesty's sanction, for the development of the trade of *Canada* with *France* and *Spain*, and with their respective colonies, and that Your Excellency hopes to be able to lay before us the result of these negotiations during the present session.

We are much pleased at hearing from Your Excellency that it is the purpose of your Government to press for the most vigorous prosecution of the Canadian *Pacific* Railway and to meet the reasonable expectations of *British Columbia*. We agree with Your Excellency in the conviction that in carrying out this intention, due regard must be had to the financial position of the country. We are glad to know that communication by rail has been effected between *Manitoba* and the *United States* system of railways, by the junction at *St. Vincent*, of the *Pembina* Branch of our railway, with the *St. Paul* and *Pacific* Railroad, and that that portion of the main line which extends from *English River* to *Keewatin* is now being placed under contract, and will be energetically pushed to completion in order to secure, as rapidly as is possible, the connection between *Lake Superior* and the great *North-West*.

Our best attention will be given to the Bills, for the amendment and consolidation of the Acts relating to Stamps, and for amending the Act relating to Weights and Measures, which Your Excellency has been pleased to say will be submitted for our consideration.

Our most attentive consideration will also be given to the measure for the purposes of the decennial census to be taken in 1881, which Your Excellency thinks it expedient should be passed during the present Session in order to give ample time for the preparation of all the preliminary arrangements, and to ensure the census being taken as accurately and inexpensively as possible. In connection with this subject, we shall be prepared to consider also the propriety of providing some means for the collection and collation of vital, criminal and general statistics.

Our careful attention and consideration will also be given to the Bill for the re-arrangement of some of the Departments of the Government, and to the measures relating to the survey and management of the Dominion Lands, to the Mounted Police, and to the Post Office Department, and also for the amendment, in some particulars, of the laws relating to Indians, and for the vesting in Her Majesty, for the use of the Dominion, of certain Ordnance and Admiralty Lands in the Provinces of *Nova Scotia* and *New Brunswick*, which Your Excellency has also been pleased to lay before us.

Parliament having recognized the importance of providing for the safe deposit of the surplus earnings of the people by arranging for their being placed with the Government at a fair rate of interest, we shall be prepared to consider, as Your Excellency has been pleased to suggest that we should, how far it is practicable to give a like security and encouragement to persons who may desire, by an insurance upon their lives, to make provision for those dependent upon them.

Your Excellency may rest assured that our best attention will be given to the important subjects Your Excellency has alluded to, and to the general interests of the country.

After Debate,

The question of concurrence being put thereon, the same was unanimously resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are Members of the Privy Council.