

ment consistent with the delay entailed by the recent dissolution.

"We receive with satisfaction the announcement that our attention will be invited, during the present Session, to measures having reference to the Representation of the people in Parliament, embracing the system now prevailing in Great Britain and in most other countries enjoying Constitutional Government, of taking votes by ballot, and to the establishment of a General Court of Appeal, and that measures will be submitted to us for the amendment of the laws relating to Controverted Elections, the Militia and Insolvency.

"The enactment of 1872, respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway, having failed to secure the prosecution of that great enterprise, we assure Your Excellency that we shall be ready most earnestly to consider what plan will best and most speedily provide the means of trans-continental communication with British Columbia. We shall receive with pleasure the report of the Chief Engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway, showing what progress has been made during the past year in the surveys connected with the proposed line, which Your Excellency is pleased to say, will be laid before us, though we regret that the destruction of the railway offices by fire involved a serious loss of maps, plans and papers, the possession of which would have made the report more complete.

"We are gratified to learn that the Canal and Harbour Improvements are being vigorously prosecuted with a view to ensure adequate accommodation for the rapidly growing trade of the country.

"We thank Your Excellency for the assurance that the Report of the Chief Engineer of the Department of Public Works on the proposed canal between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy will be submitted for our consideration.

"We are pleased to learn that from the progress already made in the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, it may be completed in another year; that a report indicating its actual condition will be laid before Parliament, and that a measure will be introduced to vest in the Department of Public Works the power now exercised by the Board of Railway Commissioners.

"We rejoice to learn from Your Excellency that the question of compensation due to the Dominion for the Fishery privileges conceded to the United States by the Treaty of Washington has given rise

to a renewal of negotiations tending to widen reciprocal trade relations with that country; and that at the instance of Your Excellency's Government the Imperial authorities have given directions to the British Minister to discuss the whole subject with the Administration at Washington, and have associated with him for this purpose a Canadian Commissioner.

"We rejoice to learn that the combined efforts of the Dominion and Provincial Governments to promote immigration have met with a reasonable measure of success, thus adding a considerable number of desirable persons from other countries to our industrial population.

"We receive with satisfaction the information that notwithstanding the commercial depression which, through exceptional causes, prevailed to some extent during the past year, the general prosperity was not thereby seriously affected; and rejoice in being assured of Your Excellency's conviction that as the great natural resources of the Dominion become more widely appreciated, the results will be a healthy stimulus to the enterprise and energy of our people and a still larger accession to our numbers.

"We trust, with your Excellency, that our deliberations may be directed by wisdom and aided by Divine Providence.

It was 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."

Then, on motion of the Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST, seconded by the Hon. Mr. SCOTT,

The House adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 31.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

Several petitions on various subjects were presented.

The Hon. Mr. McMASTER said as there was no business before the House, and there was not likely to be any of importance for several days, he begged to give notice of motion that when the House adjourned on Wednesday, he would move that it stand adjourned until Thursday, the 9th of April.

Hon. Mr. WILSON asked why they could not adjourn at once until the day named. He did not see that there was any necessity for a notice of motion on the subject of the House decided to adjourn at once which he thought they ought to do, seeing there was no business.