

A measure will also be submitted to you 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*.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

The Estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you at an early day. They have been prepared with as much regard to economy as is compatible with the efficiency of the public service.

I regret that the receipts into the Treasury from ordinary sources continue to be inadequate to meet the charges against the Consolidated Revenue. You will, I doubt not, agree with me in the opinion that it is not desirable that our finances should longer remain in this condition. By the application of the strictest economy to the public expenditure, and by the re-adjustment of the tariff with the view of increasing the revenue, and, at the same time, of developing and encouraging the various industries of *Canada*, you will, I trust, be enabled to restore the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure, and to aid in removing the commercial and financial depression which unhappily continues to exist. I have directed that the Public Accounts of the past financial year shall be laid before you.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

Parliament has 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. It may be well for you to consider 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 best attention will, I doubt not, be given to the important subjects I have alluded to, and to the general interests of the country.

On motion of Sir *John A. Macdonald*, seconded by Mr. *Langevin*,

*Ordered*, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, be taken into consideration on Monday next.

*Resolved*, That Select Standing Committees of this House, for the present Session, be appointed for the following purposes: 1.—On Privileges and Elections. 2.—On Expiring Laws. 3.—On Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines. 4.—On Miscellaneous Private Bills. 5.—On Standing Orders. 6.—On Printing. 7.—On Public Accounts. 8.—On Banking and Commerce. 9.—On Immigration and Colonization; which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon; with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House the Report of the Librarian on the state of the Library of Parliament. (*Sessional Papers*, No. 10.)

And then The House adjourned till Monday next.

Monday, 17th February, 1879.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Speaker informed the House, That he had appointed *John George Bourinot*, Esquire, the Second Clerk Assistant, to be First Clerk Assistant; and *Jean Philippe Lefprohem*, Esquire, Chief Clerk of Committees, to be Second Clerk Assistant.

Mr. Speaker laid before The House,—Account current of the Accountant of the House of Commons of the amount disbursed by him for Contingencies of the said House, from 1st July, 1877, to 1st July, 1878; with the Auditor's Report, as followeth :