

and the development of our trade that its completion from sea to sea should be hastened and the company enabled to open the line throughout by the spring of 1886; that with this view, and in order to aid the Company in procuring sufficient capital for the purpose by the disposal of its unsold shares, the Government agreed to receive a deposit of money and securities sufficient to pay a minimum of three per cent. dividend for ten years on sixty-five millions of the stock, and that this arrangement was made in the belief that it would give steadiness and increased value to the shares on the market. We are much concerned to learn that a combination of unfavorable circumstances has prevented the fulfilment of these expectations, and that the Company has not been able to obtain the required capital by a sale of its stock; and we respectfully concur with Your Excellency's opinion that the best means of preventing any delay in the great object of the early completion of the railway demands our earnest consideration.

We share the pleasure with which Your Excellency is able to state that the operation of that portion of the railway already opened affords the most gratifying evidence of its soundness as a commercial enterprise, and of its great value to Canada.

It gratifies us to know that the large increase of the volume of traffic on the Intercolonial Railway over that of any previous year, without involving any burden upon the country, is, as Your Excellency is pleased to observe, a satisfactory proof of the continued development of trade between the eastern and western portions of the Dominion.

The provisional arrangement made with the Government of Nova Scotia for the retention of the Pictou Branch, and the acquisition of the Eastern Extension Railway to the Strait of Canso, which Your Excellency has stated will be submitted for our approval, shall be carefully considered by us.

Your Excellency may rest assured that we will devote ourselves with earnestness and assiduity to the consideration of the subjects Your Excellency has mentioned, and to all matters affecting the public interests that may be brought before us.

HON. MR. MCKINDSEY—I have assumed the responsibility of seconding the motion for an address to His Excellency the Governor-General in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I did not accept it with the idea that I possessed any personal qualification for the discharge of that duty with

credit to myself or to this House, but merely in accordance with an old custom; which has now become a part of our unwritten law, that the junior members of this body should move and second the address. While I make a few remarks, therefore, I ask your indulgence in discharging this the first duty which has been imposed upon me since taking a seat in this branch of the Parliament of the Dominion.

His Excellency has been pleased to state in the first clause of the Speech that it is a source of the deepest personal satisfaction to him that he has been called by Her Majesty to an office in which, as her representative, he will be enabled to take a part in the public affairs of this Dominion. I think I may say, on your behalf, hon. gentlemen, as well as for myself, that we are pleased to express the satisfaction we feel at the appointment of a gentleman of such distinguished abilities to preside over our deliberations. I think the Canadian people have cause for congratulation that Her Majesty has been guided by such profound wisdom heretofore in the selection of her representatives in this Dominion. I refer more particularly to the appointments of the Marquis of Lorne and the Earl of Dufferin. These distinguished representatives on coming here entered fully into the spirit of our institutions; they came with a determination to throw the weight of their influence, their education and abilities into our affairs, so that they might, when their time of office expired, return to the mother country leaving a grateful remembrance of them in the heart of every person in Canada. I think I may say, with respect to those two distinguished statesmen, that when they did leave this country on the termination of their respective terms of office, by the efflux of time, that the regrets which were then expressed throughout this Dominion, at the necessity of their leaving us were universal, and are echoed to-day in all parts of the Dominion, and I believe will so continue to exist as long as we shall live. These gentlemen endeared themselves, as Her gracious Majesty has done to all her subjects, to the people of this country, and I think they have well deserved it. They have carried away pleasant recollections of this country with them. I was much pleased to hear that His Excellency, while speaking in Toronto, the