

Your relations with the Mother Country have been without exception of a cordial character. There has in no single case been a serious divergence of opinion between the Government of Her Majesty and that of the Dominion. A free interchange of views between the two has, in every instance, brought into prominence the closeness of the accord by which in all vital matters they are united—an accord which, I believe, reflects the ever increasing esteem entertained for each other by the peoples from whom those Governments derive their power.

I rejoice to know that you are pleased to recognize the deep concern which I have felt in the material progress of the Dominion, and I note with especial pleasure your reference to the completion of the national highway by which the Provinces are now united, a work which has so greatly contributed not only to the consolidation of the Dominion, but also to the strength and to the resources of the Empire.

I have felt it to be a privilege to be allowed to associate myself with your people in their spontaneous endeavours to obtain an increased share of attention for the fine arts and for literature and science, and I have observed with pleasure the degree of success by which those endeavours have been attended.

I cannot pass over in silence your reference to the fact that Her Majesty has been pleased to entrust to me the duty of representing her in another portion of the British Realm, and differing no doubt in almost every respect from that for which you are called upon to legislate, but forming like it a splendid and integral portion of the Empire which is the common inheritance of all Her Majesty's subjects. Your congratulations and your readiness to regard with favour my selection for so arduous and important a post will inspire me with courage to undertake the heavy responsibilities which are inseparable from it.

I feel sure that your good wishes for our welfare are sincere, and I have heard from you with a feeling of the deepest gratitude that you regard our approaching departure from this country with regret. Your kindly and appreciative mention of her who has shared with me the happiness of the last five years has touched her heart and mine. I thank you in Lady Lansdowne's name as well as in my own for your personal courtesy to us both. During our residence in Canada it has been our good fortune to become acquainted with a large number of the members of both Houses. We shall always look back with satisfaction to our intimacy with these representatives of the Canadian people, a satisfaction which is increased by the assurance which you have now given us that the regard which we have felt for you has been mutual.

I shall not fail to convey to Her Majesty the expression of your unaltered devotion to Her, and of your loyalty to Her Empire. I thank you in Her name, and I pray that there may be conferred upon the people who have reposed in you the sacred trust of watching over their interests in the councils of the nation every blessing which can serve to establish upon sure foundations the greatness and the reputation of your country. I trust that under the will of Providence it may long continue to present to the world the spectacle of a united and contented community, not only proud of its own prosperity and confident in its own future, but glorying in its connection with the British Throne and determined to bear its part in adding to the greatness and the renown of the Empire.

LANSDOWNE.

May, 22, 1888.

A Message was received from the Senate, agreeing to the following Bills without amendments:—

Bill No. 141, for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money required for defraying certain expenses of the Public Service, for the financial years ending respectively the 30th June, 1888, and the 30th June, 1889, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service;—and

Bill No. 142, to amend the Act respecting the Judges of Provincial Courts, Chapter 138 Revised Statutes.

A Message was received from His Excellency the Governor General, desiring the immediate attendance of The House in the Senate Chamber.