

JOURNALS
OF
THE SENATE
OF
CANADA.

Wednesday, February 15th, 1871.

Wednesday, the Fifteenth day of the month of February, in the Thirty-fourth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lady *Victoria*, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Queen, Defender of the Faith, being the Fourth Session of the First Parliament of the Dominion of *Canada*, as continued by several Prorogations to this day.

The Members in attendance in the Senate Chamber in the City of *Ottawa*, were :

The Honorable *Joseph Edouard Cauchon*, Speaker.

The Honorable Messieurs

<i>Aikins,</i>	<i>Burnham,</i>	<i>Guévremont,</i>	<i>Malhiot,</i>
<i>Armand,</i>	<i>Campbell,</i>	<i>Hamilton (Inkerman),</i>	<i>Mills,</i>
<i>Benson,</i>	<i>Chaffers,</i>	<i>Hamilton (Kingston),</i>	<i>Mitchell,</i>
<i>Bill,</i>	<i>Chapais,</i>	<i>Holmes,</i>	<i>Olivier,</i>
<i>Botsford</i>	<i>Cormier,</i>	<i>Lacoste,</i>	<i>Seymour,</i>
<i>Bourinot,</i>	<i>Dickey,</i>	<i>Letellier de St. Just,</i>	<i>Shaw,</i>
<i>Bureau,</i>	<i>Dumouchel,</i>	<i>Locke,</i>	<i>Skead.</i>
	<i>Ferguson,</i>	<i>McDonald,</i>	

His Excellency the Right Honorable *John*, Baron *Lisgar*, of *Lisgar* and *Bailieborough*, in the County of *Cavan*, *Ireland*, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and a Baronet, one of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. *Michael* and St. *George*, Governor General of *Canada*, and Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of *Prince Edward*, &c., &c., &c., being seated in the Chair on the Throne.

The Honorable the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House "It is His Excellency's pleasure they attend him immediately in this House."

Who being come with their Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to open the Session by a gracious speech to both Houses.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I have much satisfaction in meeting you at this, the usual and most convenient season of the year, and under the present auspicious circumstances of the Country.

The hope I was sanguine enough to express at the close of the last Session, that no further attempt would be made to disturb our frontier, was doomed to early disappointment. The Session had scarcely closed when lawless bands assembled within the *United States* in great numbers, and renewed the menace of invasion. They ventured to cross the border at two points, but were promptly met and repelled. So complete and humiliating was the repulse, that the invaders lost heart and hope, threw away quantities of arms, and fell back to encumber the villages in their rear, with their starving and demoralized masses. Our Militia rallied at the first call to arms with praiseworthy alacrity, and the spirit which pervades the country, swelled their numbers with volunteers from all quarters. The gallantry displayed and the success achieved, have been duly recognized by the highest Military authority, and honored in gratifying terms of appreciation, by Her Most Gracious Majesty. In maintaining the Militia on active duty, the Government incurred an outlay to a considerable amount beyond what was provided by the votes of last Session. The accounts of the entire expenditure for the defence of the frontier will be laid before you, and I feel confident that you will pass a bill to indemnify the Government.

My anticipations of success in regard to the Act passed for the Government of *Manitoba*, and the North West Territories, and in regard to the Military Expedition, which it was necessary to despatch, have been fortunately realized. The troops surmounted the difficulties of the long and toilsome route with endurance and intelligence. They encountered no armed opposition, and their arrival at the *Red River* was cordially welcomed by the inhabitants. The people of the new Province have, under the Constitution accorded to them last year, assumed all the duties of self-government, and every appearance warrants the hope that they are entering steadily upon a career of peace and prosperity.

The Legislature of *British Columbia* has passed an Address to Her Majesty, praying for admission into the Union, on the terms and conditions therein stated. All the papers on this important subject will be submitted, and your earnest attention is invited to them. I hope that you will think that the terms are so fair as to justify you in passing a similar address, so that the boundaries of *Canada* may, at an early day, be extended from the shores of the *Atlantic Ocean* on the one side, to the shores of the *Pacific* on the other.

Should such an address be adopted, it will be necessary for you to take steps to secure the early exploration and survey of a route for an Interoceanic Railway, with a view to its construction in accordance with the terms of Union.

The acquisition of the North West Territories throws upon the Government and Parliament of the Dominion the duty of promoting their early settlement by the encouragement of immigration. This duty can be best discharged by a liberal land policy, and by opening up communications through our own Country to *Manitoba*. The means proposed for accomplishing these purposes will be submitted for your consideration.

Her Majesty's Government has decided upon referring the Fishery question, along with other questions pending between the two Countries, to a Joint Commission to be named by Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the *United States*. On this commission *Canada* will be represented. This mode of dealing with the various matters in controversy will, I trust, lead to their satisfactory adjustment. *Canada* urges no demand beyond those to which she is plainly entitled by Treaty and the law of nations. She has pushed no claim to an extreme assertion, and only sought to maintain the rights of her own people fairly and firmly, but in a friendly and considerate spirit and with all due respect to foreign powers and international obligations. The thanks of the country are due to the Admiral on the Station and those under his command, for the valuable and efficient aid which they rendered to our cruisers during the past season in maintaining order and protecting the inshore Fisheries from encroachment.

The prospect of the adoption of the International Currency seems, in the present state of *Europe*, to be so remote, that I recommend you to consider the propriety of assimilating the Currency of the Dominion without further delay.

The extension to *Manitoba* of the Militia and other Laws of the Dominion, and their adaptation to the present circumstances of that young Province, will require your attention.

The decennial Census will be taken on the third day of April next, and it is believed that a more thorough and accurate system has been adopted than any that has hitherto obtained. It may be necessary to amend the Act of last Session in some particulars.

Among other measures, Bills will be presented to you relating to Parliamentary Elections, Weights and Measures, Insurance Companies, Savings Banks, and for the Consolidation and amendment of the Inspection Laws.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I have given directions that the Public Accounts shall be laid before you. You will learn with satisfaction that the Revenue for the past year was in excess of what was estimated, and that the prospects for the current year are so encouraging that, notwithstanding the extensive public improvements which are contemplated, you will probably be able to diminish the taxation of the Country.

The Estimates for the ensuing year will be submitted to you, and I feel assured that you will be of opinion that the supplies which you will be asked to vote can be granted without inconvenience to the people.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate; and

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I lay these various and weighty matters before you, in full confidence that they will engage your mature attention, and I pray that the result of your deliberations may, with the Divine blessing, prove conducive in all respects to the advancement and happiness of the Country.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the House of Commons withdrew.

PRAYERS :

The Honorable the Speaker informed the House that a Commission under the Great Seal had been granted to *Robert LeMoine*, Esquire, appointing him the Clerk of the Senate. The Commission to the Clerk was then read.

Ordered, That it be put upon the Journal, and it is as follows :—

CANADA.

LISGAR.

[L.S.]

Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.

To *Robert LeMoine*, of the City of *Ottawa*, in the Province of *Ontario*, Esquire, and to all to whom these presents may come, and whom the same may in any wise concern :—

GREETING :—

Know Ye, that having confidence in the loyalty, integrity and ability of you, the said *Robert LeMoine*, We have nominated, constituted and appointed, and by these Presents do nominate, constitute and appoint you, the said *Robert LeMoine*, to the office and place of Clerk of the Senate of *Canada*, in the room, place and stead of *John Fenning*