

arduous affairs which may the State and Defence of Our Dominion of Canada concern, We have thought fit to summon you to the Senate of Our said Dominion; and We do command you, that all difficulties and excuses whatsoever laying aside, you be and appear, for the purposes aforesaid, in the Senate of Our said Dominion, at all times whensoever and wheresoever Our Parliament may be in Our said Dominion convoked and holden; and this you are in no wise to omit.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed. WITNESS, Our Right Trusty and Right Well-Beloved Cousin and Councillor The Right Honourable Sir Gilbert John Elliot, Earl of Minto and Viscount Melgund of Melgund, County of Forfar, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron Minto of Minto, County of Roxburgh, in the Peerage of Great Britain, Baronet of Nova Scotia, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, &c., &c., Governor General of Canada.

At Our Government House, in Our City of Ottawa, this Twelfth day of March, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Three, and the Third Year of Our Reign.

By Command,
R. W. SCOTT,
Secretary of State.

Whereupon the Honourable Mr. Frost came to the Table and took and subscribed the Oath prescribed by law, which was administered by Samuel Edmour St. Onge Chapleau, Esquire, one of the Commissioners appointed for that purpose, and took his seat accordingly.

The Honourable the Speaker then acquainted the House that the Clerk of the Senate had laid upon the Table the Certificate of one of the Commissioners setting forth that the Honourable Mr. Frost, a Member of the Senate, had made and subscribed the Declaration of Qualification required by the British North American Act, 1867.

The Honourable the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Governor General's Secretary.

The same was read by the Honourable the Speaker, and it is as follows :—

OTTAWA, 10th March, 1903.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber, to open the Third Session of the ninth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, on Thursday, the 12th instant, at Three o'clock, P.M.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

F. S. MAUDE, Major,
Governor General's Secretary.

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate.

The Senate was adjourned during pleasure.
After some time the Senate was resumed.

His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Gilbert John Elliot, Earl of Minto and Viscount Melgund of Melgund, County of Forfar, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron Minto of Minto, County of Roxburgh, in the Peerage of Great Britain, Baronet of Nova Scotia, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, &c., &c., Governor General of Canada, being seated on the Throne.

The Honourable 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 then pleased to open the Session by the following Gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament :—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I am glad to be able to congratulate you on the continued prosperity that prevails throughout the Dominion. Canada has received many blessings during the past year which call for the expression of our heart-felt gratitude to a kind Providence.

I had the pleasure of visiting London last summer in anticipation of the Coronation of His Majesty, and to meet on that occasion representatives from all parts of the Empire bringing with them assurances of the loyalty and contentment that prevails throughout His Majesty’s widely extended possessions ; and though, at one time, fears were entertained that the King’s illness would have involved a further postponement of the ceremony, it was a source of much joy and happiness to His Majesty’s subjects that his health was so speedily and perfectly restored.

Representatives of this Government participated in the important Colonial Conference which was called by His Majesty’s Government in connection with the Coronation. The report of the proceedings of the Conference, including the documents submitted by the Canadian representatives, has already been given to the public, by His Majesty’s Government in London. I feel assured that much good will result from the bringing the leading public men of the great self-governing colonies into direct contact with each other and with the statesmen of the Motherland.

The great influx of population into our North-western territories and the very large additional areas of fertile land which are being brought under cultivation combine to further press upon us the need for increased transportation facilities for the forwarding of our grain and other products to the markets of the world, through Canadian channels. The whole question of transportation and terminal facilities continues to occupy much attention, and my Government will immediately appoint a Commission of experienced men to report on the subject.

A treaty has been entered into between His Majesty and the Government of the United States, under which the proper delimitation of the boundaries between Canada and Alaska is to be judicially determined by a tribunal of six impartial jurists of repute.

As a result of the recent decennial Census, the representation of the different provinces must be re-adjusted, as required by the British North America Act, and a Bill will be introduced for that purpose.

Bills with respect to the creation of a Railway Commission, the amendment of the Patent Laws, the Militia Act, Chinese immigration, the re-organization of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, the settlement of Railway labour disputes, and various other subjects will be submitted to you.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

The Public Accounts will be laid before you, and also the estimates for the coming year, which have been prepared with due regard to economy and the rapid growth of the Dominion.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate :

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

I pray that in the consideration of these matters and in the performance of all the labours which will devolve on you, your deliberations, under Divine guidance, will tend still to increase the prosperity and happiness of our people.