

That when the House adjourns this day, it do stand adjourned until to-morrow, at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon.

The question of concurrence being put thereon, the same was resolved in the affirmative.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. *Hamilton (Kingston)*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Wilmot*,
The House adjourned.

Friday, March 27th, 1874.

The Members convened were :

The Honorable *DAVID CHRISTIE*, Speaker.

The Honorable Messieurs

<i>Aikins,</i>	<i>Chinic,</i>	<i>Kaulbach,</i>	<i>Penny,</i>
<i>Alexander,</i>	<i>Cormier,</i>	<i>Lacoste,</i>	<i>Perry,</i>
<i>Allan,</i>	<i>Cornwall,</i>	<i>Leonard,</i>	<i>Read,</i>
<i>Archibald,</i>	<i>Dickey,</i>	<i>Letellier de St. Just,</i>	<i>Ryan,</i>
<i>Armand,</i>	<i>Dumouchel,</i>	<i>McClelan,</i>	<i>Scott,</i>
<i>Bellerose,</i>	<i>Ferrier,</i>	<i>McDonald,</i>	<i>Seymour,</i>
<i>Benson,</i>	<i>Flint,</i>	<i>McLelan,</i>	<i>Shaw,</i>
<i>Botsford,</i>	<i>Foster,</i>	<i>McMaster,</i>	<i>Skead,</i>
<i>Bourinot,</i>	<i>Glasier,</i>	<i>Macdonald,</i>	<i>Smith,</i>
<i>Bureau,</i>	<i>Guevremont,</i>	<i>Macfarlane,</i>	<i>Trudel,</i>
<i>Campbell,</i>	<i>Hamilton (Inkerman),</i>	<i>Malhiot,</i>	<i>Wark,</i>
<i>Carrall,</i>	<i>Hamilton (Kingston),</i>	<i>Miller,</i>	<i>Wilmot,</i>
<i>Chaffers,</i>	<i>Hazen,</i>	<i>Montgomery,</i>	<i>Wilson.</i>
<i>Chapais,</i>	<i>Holmes,</i>	<i>Muirhead,</i>	

PRAYERS :

The House was adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the House was resumed.

His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir *Frederick Temple*, Earl of *Dufferin*, Viscount and Baron *Clandeboye* of *Clandeboye*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Baron *Dufferin* and *Clandeboye* of *Ballyleidy* and *Killeleagh*, in the County *Down*, in the Peerage of *Ireland*, and a Baronet, Knight of the Most Illustrious Order of *Saint Patrick*, and Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General of *Canada*, and Vice Admiral of the same, &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,

The Honorable *Timothy Warren Anglin* said :

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The House of Commons have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

If in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Commons, whose servant I am, and who through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and Country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Excellency's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency the most favorable interpretation.

The Honorable the Speaker of this House then said :

MR. SPEAKER,—I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to Her Majesty's Person and Government ; and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognise and allow, their constitutional privileges. I am commanded, also, to assure you that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favorable construction.

His Excellency the Governor General was then 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 convoked Parliament at the earliest moment consistent with the delay entailed by the recent dissolution.

Your attention will be invited, during the present Session, to measures having reference to the Representation of the People in Parliament, embracing the system now prevailing in Great Britain and in most other countries enjoying Constitutional Government of taking votes by Ballot, and to the establishment of a General Court of Appeal.

Measures will also be submitted to you for the amendment of the Laws relating to Controverted Elections, the Militia and Insolvency.

The enactment of 1872 respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway having failed to secure the prosecution of that great enterprise, you will be called upon to consider what plan will best and most speedily provide the means of Trans-continental communication with British Columbia. A report of the Chief Engineer will be laid before you, showing what progress was made during the past year in the surveys connected with the proposed line. The destruction of the Railway Offices by fire involved a serious loss of maps, plans and papers, the possession of which would have made the report more complete.

The Canal and Harbor improvements are being vigorously prosecuted with a view to ensure adequate accommodation for the rapidly growing trade of the country.

The report of the Chief Engineer of the Department of Public Works on the proposed Canal between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy will be submitted for your consideration.

With the progress already made in the construction of the Intercolonial Railway another year will be required to complete it. A report indicating its actual condition will be laid before Parliament, and a measure will be introduced to vest in the Department of Public Works the powers now exercised by the Board of Railway Commissioners.

The question of compensation due to the Dominion for the Fishery privileges conceded to the United States by the Treaty of Washington, has given rise to a renewal of negotiations tending to widen reciprocal trade relations with that country. At the instance of my Government, the Imperial authorities have given directions to the British Minister to discuss the whole subject with the Administration at Washington, and have associated with him for this purpose a Canadian Commissioner.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons :

The accounts of the last financial year will be laid before you, as well as a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the present year to the latest practicable period.

I regret to state that the receipts of the current year will not be sufficient to meet the expenditure. It will, therefore, be necessary for you to consider the best means to be adopted for making good the anticipated deficiency.

The Estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you. They have been prepared with as much regard to economy as is consistent with the efficiency of the Public Service.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate,**Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

The combined efforts of the Dominion and Provincial Governments to promote Immigration have met with a reasonable measure of success, thus adding a considerable number of desirable persons from other countries to our industrial population.

Notwithstanding the commercial depression which, through exceptional causes, prevailed to some extent during the past year, it is satisfactory to know that the general prosperity was not thereby seriously affected. I do not doubt but that as the great natural resources of the Dominion become more widely appreciated, the results will be a healthy stimulus to the enterprise and energy of our people and a still larger accession to our numbers.

I trust that your deliberations may be directed by wisdom and aided by Divine Providence.

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

The Honorable Mr. *Letellier de St. Just*, presented to the House a Bill intituled "An Act relating to Railways."

The said Bill was read for the first time.

The Honorable the Speaker reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same was then read by the Clerk, —

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Letellier de St. Just*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Campbell*, it was

Ordered, That the House do take into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General on Monday next.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. *Letellier de St. Just*, seconded by the Honorable Mr. *Scott*, it was

Ordered, That all the Members present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of this House and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in this House, when and as often as they please.

The Honorable the Speaker presented to the House the Report of the Librarian, on the state of the Library.

The same was then read by the Clerk, as follows :

TO THE HONORABLE THE SENATE OF CANADA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

THE REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF PARLIAMENT RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That the works upon the new Building intended for the reception of the Library are still in a very backward state ; and it is to be feared that two years must elapse before the collection can be removed from the present inconvenient and over-crowded apartments. The Librarian trusts that, during the ensuing Session, efforts may be made to