Thursday, 16th January, 1890.

Thursday, the sixteenth day of the month of January, in the fifty-third year of the reign of Our Soverign Lady Queen 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 Sixth Parliament, of the Dominion of Canada, as continued by Prorogations to this day.

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

The Honorable GEORGE WILLIAM ALLAN, Speaker.

The Honorable Messieurs

Abbott, Dever, McCallum, Read, (Quinté)
Almon, Dickey, McMillan, Ross,
Bellerose, Drummond, Montgomery, Sanford,
Botsford, Flint, O'Donohoe, Scott,
Casgrain, Girard, Ogilvie, Smith,
Chaffers, Haythorne, Paquet, Stevens,
Clemow, Howlan, Pelletier, Thibeauveau,
Cochrane, Lacoste, Perley, Vidal,
De Blois, Lewin, Power, Wark.

The Honorable the Speaker presented to the House, a communication from the Governor General's Secretary.

The same was then read by the Clerk, and it is as follows:—

OTTAWA, 14th January, 1890.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor-General will proceed to the Senate Chamber to open the Session of the Dominion Parliament, on Thursday, the 16th instant at 3 p.m.

I have the honer to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
CHARLES COLVILLE, Captain,
Governor General's Secretary.

The Honorable

The Speaker of the Senate.
The House was adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the House was resumed.

His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir Frederick Arthur Stanley, Baron Stanley of Preston, in the County of Lancaster, in the Peerage of Great Britain, Knight of the Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General of Canada, and Vice Admiral of the same, 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 then pleased to open the Session by a gracious Speech to both Houses.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In calling you together again for the consideration of Public Affairs, I may fairly congratulate you on a continuance of the progress and prosperity of the Country.

During the recess I visited Manitoba, and the North-West Territories and British Columbia, and everywhere I found myself received with the loyalty and good-will which I have learned to be characteristic of Canada. A comparison of my own observations with those of my predecessors shows clearly the great progress which has marked this part of the Dominion, in the settlement of the Country and in the development of its great agricultural capabilities, of mineral wealth and of its other natural resources.

In consequence of the repeated seizures by Cruisers of the United States Navy of Canadian Vessels, while employed in the capture of seals in that part of the Northern Pacific Ocean, known as Behring Sea, my Government has strongly represented to Her Majesty's Ministers, the necessity of protecting our shipping, while engaged in their lawful calling, as well as of guarding against the assumption by any nation of exclusive proprietary rights in those waters. I feel confident that those representations have had due weight, and I hope to be enabled during the present Session to assure you that all differences on this question are in the course of satisfactory adjustment.

Having observed the close attention which has recently been given by the Imperial Authorities and on the Continent of Europe to the improvement in the methods of catching, curing and packing fish, I deemed it expedient to cause a Commission to be sent to Scotland and Holland to examine and report upon this subject during the fishing season. The report of the delegates will be laid before you; it will, I am sure, give our Fishermen most valuable information and instruction as to the best means of improving and developing this important industry.

My Ministers have carefully considered the difficulties which surround the administration of the rights of the Dominion in its foreshores, harbors, lakes and rivers, and a measure will be submitted to you for removing uncertainty as to the respective rights of the Dominion and of the Provinces, and for preventing confusion in the titles thereto.

The report of the Royal Commission on Labor, which was laid before you during the last Session, has been distributed throughout the country. I have reason to believe that the information which it contains will be found eminently useful in suggesting improvements in the administration of the laws which affect the working classes. Measures for the amendment of those laws, so far as they come within the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada, will be submitted for your consideration.
The early termination of the Acts of Incorporation of the principal Banking institutions of the Dominion necessitates a review of our present system of Banking and an adjustment of the terms under which the Charters of these corporations should be renewed. Your attention will be drawn to this important subject.

Certain amendments to the Acts relating to the North-West Territories, calculated to facilitate the administration of affairs in that region, as also a Bill further to promote the efficiency of the North-West Mounted Police, will be submitted for your consideration.

Measures will be laid before you relating to Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, to improve the laws respecting patents of invention and discovery, to amend the Adulteration Act, and the law respecting the Inland Revenue, to amend also the Act respecting the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, and to provide for the better organization of the National Printing Establishment.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts for the past year will be laid before you. It will be found that the Estimates of Revenue have been realized, and that after having fully provided for the various public services of the country, a substantial surplus will remain. The Estimates for next year have been framed with a due regard to the requirements of the Public Service.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I commit these weighty matters, and all others which may come before you, to your earnest consideration, and I rely upon your wisdom and prudence to deal with them in the manner which, under Divine Providence, may prove most conducive to the happiness and prosperity of Canada.

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

Prayers:

The Honorable the Speaker reported to the House that the Clerk had received a communication from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, and

The same was then read by the Clerk.

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

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Canada,
Ottawa, 9th January, 1890.

This is to certify that His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to summon to the Senate, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal, bearing date the Fourteenth day of the month of September, A.D. One thousand eight hundred and eighty nine (1889), Samuel Prowse, Esquire, of Murray Harbor, in the Province of Prince Edward Island, vice the Honorable J. S. Carvell, who has resigned.

SAML. E. ST. O. CHAPLEAU,
Clerk of the Crown in Chancery for Canada.

To EDOUARD J. LANGEVIN, Esquire,
Clerk of the Senate.

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The same was then read by the Clerk.

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

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Canada,
Ottawa, 9th January, 1890.

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