

(By Telegraph from our Own Reporters.)

OTTAWA, Feb. 15.

The Parliament opened to-day with the customary formalities. The weather was glorious and numerous flags were displayed in the city. The guard of honour consisted of the 60th Rifles. Two hours before the commencement of the ceremony, members had taken their seats in the gallery of the Senate; and from that time a continuous stream of fashionably dressed ladies and gentlemen poured into the Chamber. The gallery became densely crowded; and on the floors were a large number of representatives of the Clerical and Legal professions, including the Protestant Bishop of Ontario.

Shortly before three o'clock the Vice-Regal party entered, the company uprising, and precisely at the hour appointed, His Excellency, together with his suite, entered and ascended the throne. Immediately after Prince Arthur was conducted by Sir John A. Macdonald to a seat by the side of the Governor-General. A salute was fired on the arrival of the Governor-General and party.

The Hon. Mr. CAUCHON, Speaker of the Senate, then commanded the Usher of the Black Rod, Mr. Kimber, junr., to summon the members of the House of Commons.

After an interval of a quarter of an hour, the Usher returned with the Speaker and members of the Lower House to the number of about one hundred, who crowded behind the bar.

HIS EXCELLENCY then proceeded to read, in a distinct voice, the following Speech: *Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate, and Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

I recur with confidence to your advice, and have much satisfaction in being able on the present occasion to summon you for the discharge of your public duties at the period of the year most convenient to yourselves. The circumstances under which we meet are, in many respects, auspicious. The bounty of Providence crowned the harvest with abundance and made the fisheries unusually productive. In many districts existing industries have been enlarged and new enterprises have started into activity, furnishing fresh avenues for commerce and additional employment for our people, whilst every day new sections of the country are being opened to the labours of the husbandman. The trade and wealth of the Dominion are on the increase, and the equal administration of the laws maintains, as heretofore, the enjoyment of a general sense of security. I have watched with much anxiety the course of events in the North-West Territories. Unfortunate misapprehensions of the intentions with which the country was sought to be acquired by Canada have led to complications of a grave character. With a view to their removal, I have thought it desirable to exhaust every means of conciliation before adopting other measures, and the latest advices lead me to expect that the groundless alarms entertained by a portion of the inhabitants have given place to a desire to listen to the explanations which I have caused to be made to them. Efforts made in the spirit which has animated my Government throughout can scarcely fail to accomplish an equitable and peaceful solution of the existing difficulties, and thereby secure the speedy incorporation of the North-West Territories with Canada, an object so earnestly desired by the Empire and the Dominion, as the act for the temporary government of the Territories when united with Canada will expire at the close of the present Session. A measure providing for their government will be submitted for your consideration. The charters of most of the Banks of the Dominion were, last session, extended for a limited period, with the view that during the interval the questions of Banking and Currency should receive the consideration which their importance demands. A measure, intended to ensure safety to the community, without interfering with the legitimate operations of the Banks, will be submitted for your consideration, and will, I trust, be found calculated to place those important interests upon a sound and stable basis. The laws in force on the subject of the elective franchise and the regulation of Parliamentary elections in the several Provinces of the Dominion vary much in their operations, and it is important that uniform provisions should be made settling the franchise and regulating elections.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

A measure upon this subject will be submitted for your consideration under the operation of an Act of the Imperial Parliament, passed in the year 1869, to amend the law relating to the coasting trade and merchant shipping in British possessions, a period of two years is given to the Legislatures of the several Colonies of the Empire to make provision for the regulation of their coasting trade. In the absence of legislation on the subject within the period named, the provisions of the Imperial law will be in force. The extent and value of our internal commerce, render legislation on the subject desirable, and a measure with regard to it will be submitted for your consideration. The creation of a Court of Ap-

An Act to amend thirty second Victoria, Chapter thirty, of the Statutes of Ontario, intituled "An Act to provide for the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths."
An Act to amend and extend the provisions of the Act, Chapter thirty, Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada, respecting Interpleading.
An Act to remunerate Sheriffs, Clerks of the Peace, and County Attorneys.
An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money required for defraying the expenses of Civil Government for the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and for making good certain sums expended for the Public Service in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, and for other purposes.

Mr. SPEAKER then said:—
May it please your Excellency:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and faithful subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, in Session assembled, approach Your Excellency at the close of our labours with sentiments of unfeigned devotion and loyalty to Her Majesty's person and Government, and humbly beg to present for your Excellency's acceptance, a Bill intituled "An Act for Granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money required for defraying the expenses of Civil Government for the year 1870, for making good certain sums expended for the Public Service in 1868 and 1869, and for other purposes;" thus placing at the disposal of the Crown the means by which the Government may be made efficient for the service and welfare of the Province.

To this Bill the Royal Assent was signified in the following words:—

In Her Majesty's name, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor doth thank Her loyal subjects, accept their benevolence and assent to this Bill.

After which, the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to address the Legislative Assembly in the following words:—

The state of the public business now enables me to release you from further attendance in this Assembly.

I feel persuaded that your respective constituents, and the public at large, will join with me in recognizing the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the performance of your arduous duties during the Session now brought to a close.

I thank you for the liberal supply you have granted to Her Majesty for the service of the incoming year, and you may rely on these being administered, as heretofore, with the most vigilant regard to economy in every department of Public Service.

I have given my ready assent to a variety of measures of public utility, the result of your labours during the present Session, believing them to be well calculated to further the ends of justice, and to promote the well-being and prosperity of the Province.

I rejoice that you are enabled to return to your respective homes, at a season of the year when it is peculiarly agreeable for friends to be re-united, and relatives to meet in the domestic circle. I sincerely wish to each and all of you a happy meeting with your families and constituents, and I pray that the Divine blessing may rest upon the labours which you have now brought to a happy conclusion.

The Hon. Mr. Richards, then said:—
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It is His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor's will and pleasure, that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until Thursday, the 3rd day of February next, to be then here holden; and this Provincial Legislative Assembly is accordingly prorogued until Thursday, the 3rd day of February next.

His Excellency then rose and left the Chamber amid cheering, and shortly afterwards drove off in his carriage, the band again playing part of the National Anthem.

An Act to amend an Act, intituled "An Act for the relief of the representatives of the late David B. Ogden Ford."
An Act to authorize the closing of certain streets in Elora, in conformity with a By-law of said Village.
An Act to legalize the Amalgamation of the Cobourg and Peterborough Railway Company, and the Marmora Iron Company, and for other purposes.
An Act to Incorporate the Ontario Peat Company.
An Act to provide for the organization of the Territorial District of Parry Sound.
An Act to Incorporate the Ottawa Ladies' College.
An Act concerning Sheriffs' sales for taxes.
An Act to Incorporate the Weston Church School.
An Act to confirm and legalize a sale and conveyance by the Church Society of the Diocese of Huron, of certain premises in the Town of Galt, to the Reverend Michael Boomer, D.D.
An Act to empower the Ottawa Mechanics' Institute and Athenaeum, and the Ottawa Natural History Society, to amalgamate into one corporate body under the name of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society.
An Act to amend an Act passed in the Session, held in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and chaptered forty.
An Act to appoint Trustees for certain lands belonging to the Presbyterian Church, in connection with the Church of Scotland, in the townships of Dummer and Asphodel, in the County of Peterborough.
An Act to enable Donald Alexander Macdonald to construct a Canal in the Township of Kenyon.
To amend the Act of Incorporation of the Cobourg Cemetery Company, and to extend to said Company the provisions of chapter sixty-seven of the Consolidated Statutes for Upper Canada, and for other purposes.
An Act to amend the Act passed in the thirty-first year of the reign of Her Majesty, chaptered forty-one, intituled an Act to Incorporate the Toronto and Nipissing Railway Company, and the Act amending the same, passed in the thirty-second year of the reign of Her Majesty, chaptered eighty-three.
An Act to authorize the Church Society of the Diocese of Huron to sell certain Church Lands in the Township of Goderich.
An Act to facilitate the withdrawal of the town of Perth, in the County of Lanark, from the jurisdiction of the Council of the County Lanark, and to provide for the liability of the town for its share of the county debt.
An Act relating to the Indemnity of Members, and the salary of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.
An Act to amend the Law of Evidence in Civil Causes.
An Act amending the Acts relating to the Port Whitby and Port Perry Railway Company.
An Act to Incorporate certain persons under the name of the Toronto Wharf and Warehousing Company.
An Act to authorize the Trustees of the McNab Street Wesleyan Methodist Church, in the City of Hamilton, to sell and convey certain real estate vested in them, and to apply the proceeds in payment for another church.
An Act to amend the Act to Incorporate the Peterborough and Haliburton Railway Company.
An Act to Incorporate the Nazrey Institute.
An Act to divide the Township of Marysburgh into two municipalities.
An Act to authorize the Corporation of the Township of Collingwood, in the County of Grey, to construct certain works, and acquire certain lands at the mouth of Beaver River, in the said township.
An Act to authorize the construction of a railway from some point in the City of Hamilton to Caledonia.
An Act to Incorporate the Inland Water Transportation Company.
An Act to Incorporate the Mississippi Navigation Company.
An Act to amend the Law respecting the powers of Executors and Administrators.
An Act to amend the Act, intituled "An Act respecting Tavern and Shop Licenses."
An Act to amend sub-section two and three of section nine of the Law Reform Act of 1868, and to appeal section two of chapter one hundred and twenty-eight of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada (now Ontario).
Registration of Co-Partnership Act, 1869.
An Act to amend the Assessment Law.
An Act respecting Municipal Institutions of Upper Canada.
An Act to amend Chapter thirty-one of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada.
An Act to permit solemn Declarations to be substituted for Oaths in certain cases.
An Act to repeal sub-section one of section one hundred and fifty-five, of Chapter thirty-one, Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada, respecting Jurors and Juries, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.
An Act to authorize the Port Hope, Lindsay and Beaverton Railway Company, to change the name of the Company, and to extend their line of Railway, and for other purposes.
An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Erie and Niagara Extension Railway, and to change its name.
An Act to establish Municipal Institutions in the District of Algoma.
An Act to incorporate the Canada Air Line Railway Company.
An Act to incorporate the Canada South-Western Air Line Railway Company.
An Act to amend the Act of the late Province of Canada, intituled "An Act to secure to Wives and Children the benefit of Assurances on the lives of their Husbands and Parents."
An Act to revive, for a limited purpose, the Charter of the Hamilton and Port Dover Railway Company.

LEGISLATURE OF ONTARIO.

PROROGATION.

FRIDAY, Dec. 24.

The third session of the Ontario Legislature was brought to a close yesterday, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor proroguing the House with the customary formalities. The event did not create any considerable degree of interest, and scarcely twenty persons assembled outside the Parliament buildings awaiting the Lieut. Governor's arrival. A detachment of the 60th Rifles was drawn up before the House; and inside the general galleries were well filled; and among those on the floor of the House were Vice Chancellor Mowat, Judge Galt, Judge Haggerty, Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Bishop Bethune, and others, and also several ladies. Some thirty members were present in their seats, the majority having previously left by train.

Precisely at three o'clock His Excellency drove up in his carriage, the band of the 60th Rifles playing the National Anthem; and shortly after he entered the Chamber and took his seat on the Throne, those present rising and paying obeisance.

His Excellency then was pleased, in Her Majesty's name, to assent to the following Bills:—

An Act to enable the Corporation of the Town of Chatham to dispose of certain lands.
An Act to amend the Act passed in the Session held in the thirty-second year of the reign of Her Majesty, intituled "An Act respecting elections of Members of the Legislative Assembly."
An Act to amend an Act passed in the Session held in the thirty-second year of the reign of Her Majesty, intituled "An Act to amend chapter fifteen of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada, intituled an Act respecting County Courts."
An Act further to extend the time for the Registration of Conveyances to Religious Institutions in Ontario.
An Act to amend the Act Incorporating the Wesleyan Female College of Hamilton.
An Act respecting the Fair Ground of the County of Oxford.
An Act to exempt, from Municipal Taxation, for a certain period therein mentioned, a Sugar Refinery proposed to be erected in the City of Toronto.
An Act to remunerate certain members of the Court of Error and Appeal.
An Act to authorize the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church, in the Township of Finch, in the County of Stormont, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to sell Lot number fourteen, in the Fifth Concession of the said Township.
An Act to legalize, confirm and establish the re-survey of the Town of Chatham, in the Province of Ontario.
An Act to make further provisions for carrying out the Act, intituled the Law Reform Act of 1868, and to regulate proceedings on Writ of Error and Certiorari.
An Act to provide for the conveyance of land sold by the late Zephaniah Swift More Hervey, and to authorize the sale of certain Village Lots belonging to his estate.
An Act to amend the Act Incorporating the President, Directors and Company of the Port Credit Harbour.
An Act respecting Law Fees and Trust Funds.
An Act respecting the Appointment of Notaries Public.
An Act to authorize the advance of Public Money to a limited amount, to promote the improvement of Lands in Ontario by works of Drainage.
An Act respecting the Primitive Methodist Connexion.
An Act to Incorporate the Toronto, Simcoe and Muskoka Railway Company.
An Act to Incorporate the Kingston and Madoc Railway Company.
An Act to amend the Law relating to Bills of Lading.
An Act respecting proceedings in Judges' Chambers at Common Law.
An Act to amend an Act passed in the Session held in the twenty-fourth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled "An Act to consolidate the debt of the Town of Peterborough, and to authorize the issue of debentures on the security of Town Property, and for other purposes."
An Act to Incorporate the Toronto House Building Association.
An Act to legalize and confirm the survey made by F. F. Passmore, Esq., Provincial Land Surveyor, of the first, second, third and fourth Concessions (old survey) of the Township of Melancthon, in the County of Grey.
An Act to confirm certain side Roads in the Township of Tilbury East, and to provide for the defining of other road allowances and lines in the said Township.
An Act to amend the Act passed in the Session held in the thirty-first year of Her Majesty's Reign, chaptered forty, intituled an Act to Incorporate the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway Company, and the Act passed in the Session held in the thirty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign, chaptered eighty-two, amending the same.