

sun scarcely ever struck. It cost more to take a barrel of flour from Toronto to 40 miles north of Bracebridge than to take it to Liverpool. A liberal appropriation ought to be made to open up our own territories. If they took the sums spent on railways throughout the older sections, they would find the same area had received larger sums in the front than in the rear, though, while the rear was adding largely to the revenue from timber dues, they received very little directly from the front. There had been no time in which a third of the settlers had gone into the district he represented that had gone there this last summer; five or six townships had been squatted upon, the land not having been in the market, and people were carrying in their flour for the winter on snowshoes. In conclusion, he expressed a hope that in the conduct of the debates they would conduct themselves in such a way as to reflect credit on the House and on themselves. (Cheers.)

Mr. MASSIE, in seconding the address, asked the kindly consideration of hon. members on this his first occasion of addressing them. Reference was made in the Address to the time at which the House had been called together. He had felt for some years back, though he had not had the honour of a seat in the House, that the calling of hon. members together early in the month of December was not very convenient; and speaking from a commercial point of view, it was much better for the House to assemble early in the new year. In reference to the Consolidation of the Statutes, he was not, perhaps, in a position fully to appreciate the work performed by the Commissioners, but he had had sufficient experience in municipal matters to know that the various Council Boards throughout the Province would value very highly the labours of these gentlemen, and, no doubt, they would be appreciated still more highly by members of the legal profession. He was pleased to learn that a measure was to be submitted to extend the franchise to farmers' sons. He had long felt the injustice of preventing this class of young Canadians from taking part in parliamentary and municipal elections. It seemed to him to be a hardship that a young man who had spent the best of his days in reclaiming our forests and making them cultivated fields should be prevented from exercising the franchise, when perhaps on the adjoining farm the man who simply rented the land was enjoying that privilege. (Hear, hear.) If this measure was carried out—as doubtless it would be supported by the House—it would do away with an evil which he knew had existed for a long time, namely, the making out of false leases for young farmers, so that they might enjoy the franchise. It would accomplish more: it would tend to make young Canadians more contented with their homes. They found many of them from time to time leaving their country, though they generally returned afterwards, finding that they were unable to get a better place than Canada. There seemed, at all events, to be a feeling of dissatisfaction among some of them, and he believed that it would be removed to a very great extent by conferring on these young men the privileges of the franchise. (Hear, hear.) His Honour had been pleased to direct the attention of the House to some amendments which it was proposed to make in reference to education. He (Mr. Massie) felt quite sure that any measure having for its object the improvement of our already nearly perfect system of education would receive the support of the House. A movement had been made in the right direction in placing the system under the management of a responsible Minister, and he was certain that anything tending to still further perfect a system that had attained so much for the good of the people would be heartily supported. Attention was also directed to the law respecting the sale of spirituous and fermented liquors. The law passed last session had accomplished much (hear); though, like all new laws, there were doubtless some defects that might require remedy. Hardships were complained of in some cases, and it might be that some amendments would be necessary. It was their duty, having the interests of the people committed to their care, to seek to promote the welfare of the community, and whatever measures were brought forward to restrain any irregularities or improprieties that might have crept into the sale of liquors deserved their attention, and would, speaking for himself, receive his support. He hoped that whatever amendments might be made upon the License Act would have a tendency to work harmoniously with the Dunkin Act. (Hear, hear.) There had been a great difference of

opinion in the legal profession about whether the present law was consistent with the Dunkin Act, but he trusted that any measure that might be submitted to the House would not work in antagonism to that Act. (Cheers.) The next paragraph of His Honour's speech referred to the provision of greater accommodation for lunatics. He regretted to see that while arrangements had been made with the Dominion Government for the acquisition of the whole of the Rockwood Asylum, even this would not afford sufficient accommodation for these unfortunates. He was sorry to hear that this class was on the increase, (though that was to be expected as a consequence of the increase of our population), and no doubt hon. members would feel it to be their duty to make ample provision for these people. He would not enter into the causes of the malady; but with the fact staring them in the face that the number of lunatics was increasing, their duty to provide for them was clear. With regard to those other unfortunates, the blind and the deaf mutes, much had already been accomplished by our existing institutions, but if they were found inadequate for their purpose, he would take pleasure in supporting a measure for greater accommodation. He felt that it was an imperative demand upon them to look with sympathy on those classes whose faculties were as keen as others, but who were deprived of those senses which ministered so largely to human enjoyment; and the loss of which, after being once enjoyed, would render life almost intolerable. He had pleasure in expressing to the Administration his appreciation of the valuable assistance they had already afforded railways which opened up new territories, and giving those interests which heretofore had been deprived of railway facilities the advantages of coming into close communication with the markets of our country. While still holding that it was the duty of the Government to assist such enterprises, he trusted that the ordinary railway speculation, who had no other object than the advancement of his own interests, would be discouraged. Such speculators should be carefully guarded against by the Government and the House. (Hear, hear.) His Honour referred to the manner in which this Province had passed through the late depression in trade. That depression had not only been felt all over this continent, but in Europe as well. The people of this country had, he believed, come through that depression with credit to themselves, and they need only look for the cause of this success to their own industry and good sense. They were also indebted to our educational and municipal institutions. In this free country every man was taught to learn true independence. (Hear, hear.) Under our system of education and with the spirit of independence and manliness which was cultivated by our excellent municipal institutions, we were encouraged to struggle to rise above whatever position we might happen to occupy when launched into life, and hence it was that so many of our young Canadians had risen from the humblest walk of life to the foremost positions in the land. (Loud cheers.) In this way, too, our people had been taught economy, and they had in consequence been careful not to allow their annual income to exceed their annual expenditure. If the farmer some years found that his crops had not turned out so well as he had anticipated he became all the more cautious and economical, and was thus able to avoid disasters which extravagance would have brought upon him. (Hear, hear.) If our banks had not found room for all their capital there had at least been no serious failures in our midst, and the time would come when the country would enter into another decade of prosperity such as we had experienced some years ago. To his mind the future was not without the brightest prospects for a country so young and vigorous as Canada, was and having a population so careful, economical, and independent. (Loud cheers.) His Honour had referred to his visit to the Centennial Exhibition. Those hon. members who had had the opportunity of visiting Philadelphia and seeing the creditable exhibit made by Canada must have been gratified and proud of their country. It was the first time in our existence in which we had an opportunity of exhibiting the products of our soil, and the handiwork of our manufacturers and artisans in competition with the world; and while it was most gratifying to every Canadian to observe our high rank there, it was in some cases not a little amusing to hear people from the mother land expressing their surprise that one of the colonies should come forward and