

power to collect his own debt any more than any other creditor. (Hear.) The mover of the Address had referred somewhat to the meagreness of the legislation promised in the Speech, but they had passed a very large number of measures since Confederation, and of course that left the less to be done. He agreed with the member for West Huron that it was an unwise thing to legislate for the mere sake of legislating, or for the purpose of making a large display on the programme for the session. (Hear, hear.) The statutes which had just been consolidated would show what legislation had been accomplished during the two years this House had existed, and he thought it would compare favourably both in quantity and quality with that of the larger Parliament of the Dominion. (Cheers.) The consolidation of the statutes would be a great boon to the country, and especially to the magistracy. He did not know that it would be of any particular advantage to the lawyers, for he thought they would not gain very much by the people becoming acquainted with our laws which governed them. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He wished to join his voice with that of the mover in favour of supplying every magistrate with a copy of the revised statutes, and he also thought that a copy should be given to each municipality. If this were done he believed the municipal representatives of the people would be enabled to discharge their important duties with greater credit to themselves, and more benefit to the community. (Hear, hear.) He was pleased to see that greater caution was to be exercised in future in regard to the various railway projects that might come to seek aid from Parliament. While it was most desirable that every facility should be afforded for giving means of transit to our new territories, and means of transporting the products of these territories when they became improved, and while he had always favoured the granting of aid to railways to the back country, he thought that when new lines ran parallel to existing ones, and were only cutting up the business of the country when it was really so small that the present lines paid nothing like a dividend, he thought it became a matter of grave question whether aid should be granted to such new roads. He did not, however, agree with the mover, that it would be better for us to have no surplus at all. He was in favour of maintaining the proud pre-eminence we now held, of being the only civilized country in the world that had a surplus in the treasury. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He hoped that if ever the time would come—as some anticipated—that we would have to resort to direct taxation, that it would be so far in the future that no member of the House would live to see it. Referring to the License Law, he said that while perhaps it had not been altogether effective, he thought it had attained a measure of success that had scarcely been looked for by its friends, and that certainly could not have been anticipated by those who had opposed it. There was one thing which prevented its more efficient operation, and that was the public odium which attached to the name of informer. While the man who exposed a thief was looked upon as a public benefactor, he who took the first step towards punishing the man who was the means perhaps of depriving his fellows of reason, reputation, and all that should be dear to them, was cried down as a whiskey informer. This sentiment he believed to be a great evil in the country, and one which every man who had the welfare of his country at heart should assist in discouraging. (Hear, hear.) If we were to have laws, we must have those who would take the initiative in having these laws enforced; and for his part, he believed the informer was as necessary to the carrying out of the law as the counsel who prosecuted or even the judge who condemned. In regard to education, he was glad to know that a better mode of training teachers than that lately practised had been devised. Our Normal Schools, owing to the expense of their erection and maintenance, were necessarily far apart; and he believed the establishment of County Model Schools,

at which teachers could be trained at a small expense to themselves or the community, was a step in the right direction. He had strongly approved of the change in our educational system, which had been brought about by the appointment of a responsible Minister as the head of the Department, and he had full confidence that the new system would work well. He was glad to see that the country at large had concurred in the steps taken to advance our educational interests. They had been congratulated in the Address on the abundant harvest. This was a cause for congratulation, and every Christian country was grateful when it pleased the Bestower of Events to fill their barns with the products of the fields. (Applause.) We had had a few bad harvests, which had caused depression of trade, and want and pinching among the industrial classes; and he trusted that the abundant harvest of last year would—and it had already done something in that direction—would entirely do away with any want or complaints which might exist in the country. With regard to the want of work or the means of employing labour, he was glad to learn from the Speech that our new territories were being rapidly opened out, and that the amounts which have been generally readily granted for that purpose have answered the desired end. Upon the settlement of our new territory would depend in a great measure the aggrandisement and prosperity of the whole country, and any means that could be taken to facilitate that settlement and make the country a desirable place for emigrants to resort to was a step in the right direction, and one which would bring about an abundant return for the outlay. He hoped that in the future as in the past the Government would look in that direction, and open out our territory as fast as immigration rendered it necessary. This is, and will continue to be for years, to a great extent an agricultural country; it was only when the population of a country became dense that manufactures could be carried on to advantage. In a new country we should look to the agricultural interests to give prosperity; and he trusted that our agricultural territory, a large proportion of which, he believed, lay back of that now settled, presented a desirable field for settlement, and one which would be rapidly developed, and become the home of large populations, adding to the wealth and power of this Province. (Applause.) In order that this should take place, we must seek by a wise policy to induce emigrants to come to our shores. We must not do this too hastily, perhaps, but we must endeavour to keep the stream of immigration flowing, and the supply constant, so that it shall equal the demand. This matter, he trusted, would engage the attention of the Ministry, and that we should see a constant if slow stream of immigration flow in and fill up our back territory. He thought the Speech from the Throne foreshadowed a legislation wise in itself, and one which would commend itself to the country. It seemed to him to have so little objectionable in it that, while he could scarcely suppose that in the present state of political parties his friends on the other side of the House would find no fault with it in little details, they would think it needed little improvement as a whole. It was an easy thing to pull down, but a more difficult matter to build up; and if his friends opposite would endeavour to assist, they would be able to carry on the business of the session harmoniously and the acrimony which sometimes crept into the debates would be in a great measure excluded. He hoped they would have an harmonious; and, with the assistance of hon. gentlemen opposite, a short session; with their assistance the House would be able to get through with the business in half the usual time. (Loud applause.)

Mr. CAMERON said a change had taken place in the Ministry, and he would suggest that it is usual under such circumstances to make an explanation to the House. It was true that the change was foreshadowed during the last session, but when the Government was questioned as to the