

bility I shall not have the pleasure of receiving another Address from the Legislative Assembly of my native Province. Mr. Speaker, I will be candid with you, and say that I had an ambition and a great desire to fill

THE OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

of this Province, and I am glad to learn from you, Sir, and from the representative men of this Assembly, that, having discharged the duties appertaining to that office for six years, I have done so, in your opinion, in an impartial and constitutional manner, that I have upheld its dignity and prestige while I have not weakened, I trust, its ancient rights and privileges. (Hear, hear.) Sir, I can only now wish you a kind farewell, expressing the hope that my successor in office may have the same prosperous and happy career in Government House that it has been my good fortune to enjoy, and I hope that your deliberations, prompted and guided by the same spirit as hitherto, may have as successful an issue as the deliberations of previous Parliaments with which I have had the honor to act. And now, Mr. Speaker, I would be doing myself an injustice, seeing my friend the Attorney-General at my side, were I not to express to himself on behalf of Mrs. Robinson and myself the gratitude which we feel, not only to himself, but every member of his Ministry, for the kindness, for the good-will and for the consideration which they have extended to us during our sojourn here, which have tended to make a happy home for us, while I hope it has been attended with some little advantage to the public. (Hear, hear.)

The legislators visited the conservatories, and on re-entering the drawing-room were presented to Mrs. Robinson. After a short time spent in conversation the representatives withdrew.

AN INTERESTING EVENT.

Yesterday's proceedings were a revival, out of respect for the Lieutenant-Governor, of a practice which had not been observed since Confederation. In the Parliaments of Upper and Lower Canada before the Union it was the practise of the members to attend the Governor-General in a body and present him with the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. In the journals of the Assembly of Lower Canada as far back as December 26, 1792, is found the following entry:—"The House is unanimous that the Speaker set out at noon, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms bearing the mace, that the members follow to the Chateau St. Louis, where Mr. Speaker will read the Address, after which a member will read the same in English, and that the clerk do follow the House at some distance in case of need and that the House do return in the same order." A similar practice was followed by the Parliament of old Canada until Confederation, when it gave place to the more convenient custom of having the Address presented by the members of the Council--this practice prevailing both in the Federal Parliament and the Local Legislatures. Special addresses were presented to Lord Lisgar, Lord Dufferin and the Marquis of Lorne on their departure, but these were not in reply to the Speech from the Throne.
