

Quebec are likewise unsettled, the intended arbitration provided for in both Provinces by statute not having been proceeded with, in consequence of a difference as to the matters to be referred. My Government desired that all unsettled matters in dispute should be submitted; and Quebec was not prepared to include the question of the Land Improvement Fund, or any matters except such as relate to the School Lands. I hope that some satisfactory way of removing the difficulties in the way of a complete settlement may soon be found.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

The public accounts of the Province, showing the receipts and expenditures for the past year, will be promptly laid before you. I am glad to say that the revenue has exceeded the amount anticipated, and that the aggregate expenditure has been kept within the estimates.

The estimates for the expenditure of the current year will at an early date be submitted for your approval. They will be found to have been prepared with all the economy consistent with the efficiency of the public service.

I feel sure that your legislative labors in disposing of all matters which may come before you will manifest the same care and wisdom as heretofore.

A CONVERSAZIONE.

A NEW MINISTER AND FOUR NEW MEMBERS INTRODUCED.

Then the Lieutenant-Governor and his attendants withdrew, the Speaker left the chair and the House resolved itself into a conversazione, minus the refreshments. After fifteen or twenty minutes of this sort of thing, the Speaker again took the chair and reported that, to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of his Honor the Lieut.-Governor's speech, which he would read. One or two long faces were drawn at the prospect of the repetition of the reading of the speech, which, however admirable, would not be enjoyed a second time. Mr. Fraser murmured a timely "dispense," and the speech was taken as read.

Then came the formal introduction of the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Charles Drury, and of the gentlemen who have been elected members of the House since last session.

The Minister of Agriculture was introduced by the Attorney-General and the Commissioner of Public Works, and the Ministerialists lifted up their voices and cheered.

Then the Conservatives had an innings, Dr. Willoughby, the Tory member for East Northumberland, being introduced by Mr. Meredith and Mr. H. E. Clarke amid the cheers of his party.

Then Hon. Mr. Hardy and Mr. Balfour brought forward Mr. J. C. Dance, the Ministerialist member for East Elgin.

Hon. G. W. Ross and Mr. Allen introduced Mr. E. J. Davis, of North York, also a Ministerialist, and

Mr. Monk and Mr. Ostrom introduced Mr. Hugh Smith, of Frontenac, for the Opposition.

Mr. Caldwell, the member for North Lanark, the only other gentleman elected during recess, was not present.

The remainder of the sitting consisted only of a few formalities.

On motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by Hon. Mr. Fraser, the usual bill was introduced and read a first time to provide for the administration of oaths of office to persons appointed as Justices of the Peace.

The Attorney-General moved again, seconded by Hon. Mr. Fraser, that the speech of his Honor be taken into consideration on the following day, which was carried.

The Attorney-General moved for the appointment of the usual committees. Hon. Mr. Fraser seconded. The motion was carried and the House adjourned at four o'clock.