

Hon. Mr. BROWN remarked that, however, such members differed in political opinion, and however firmly they might be opposed to each other, it was but right that every courtesy should be extended from both sides.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD was perfectly willing to extend every courtesy to members of the Opposition, and he trusted they would be ready to return the compliment to his side of the House, and that if there was any neglect in this instance it was unintentional.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD, seconded by Hon. Mr. DORION, moved that the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed; being perused by the Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD, seconded by Hon. Mr. DORION, moved that Select Committees of this House for the present Session be appointed for the following purposes:—1st. On Privileges and Elections; 2nd. On Expiring Laws; 3rd. On Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines; 4th. On Miscellaneous Private Bills; 5th. On Standing Orders; 6th. On Printing; 7th. On Contingencies; 8th. On Public Accounts; 9th. On Banking and Insurance; 10th. On Emigration and Colonization; which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for papers, persons and records.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD, seconded by Hon. Mr. DORION, moved that it be Resolved, 1st. That if anything shall come in question touching the return or election of any member, he is to withdraw during the time the matter is in debate; and all members returned upon double returns are to withdraw until returns are determined.

2nd. Resolved, that if it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a member of this House, or endeavored so to be, by bribery or other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

3rd. Resolved, that the offer of money or other advantage to any member of the Legislative Assembly, for the promoting of any matter whatsoever, depending or to be transacted in the Provincial Parliament, is a high crime and misdemeanor and tends to the subversion of the constitution.

The CLERK laid upon the table, in obedience to the Sessional orders of last Session, a list of Bills introduced in the Legislative Assembly or brought from the Legislative Council, during said Session, with his certificate of the stage at which proceedings were suspended thereon, in the order in which they stood on the day on which Parliament was prorogued.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following Report of the Librarian respecting the Library of Parliament:

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

"That the annual appropriation on behalf of the Library has been carefully and economically expended in the purchase of books published in Europe and America within a recent period. A list of these additions is now in the hands of the printer, and will shortly be distributed to members.

"The Supplementary Index will be found to include a catalogue of the English, French, and Canadian pamphlets which have been added to the Library since 1858. A catalogue of the pamphlet collection, which is now of considerable extent and importance, was promised by your Librarian last year; but, when ready for the press, its publication was delayed in order to admit of its comprising a reference to series of eighty volumes formerly belonging to Sir Benjamin Hawes, Under Secretary of States for the Colonies, and which were fortunately secured for the Library at a very low price by our agent in London. These volumes contain pamphlets on colonial questions of great variety and value, some of which are enriched by autograph letters from their respective authors to Sir Benjamin Hawes. The special interest attaching to this series induced your Librarian to withhold the issue of the pamphlet catalogue until the contents of these volumes should be incorporated therein. A full index of authors and subjects has been appended to this catalogue, so that any pamphlet in the collection can be readily referred to.

"In proof of the increasing estimation in which the Library is held by those who have the privilege of frequenting it, your Librarian is gratified to state that during the past year it has been daily attended by a number of readers; and that the loan of books to persons duly authorized to borrow the same, has within this period considerably exceeded eight thou-

sand volumes—exclusive of the issue of Journals and other books of reference to members during the sitting of Parliament.

"But there is one drawback to the satisfaction with which your Librarian would otherwise regard the more extensive use of the Library by the public at large. He exceedingly regrets to state that the mutilation of illustrated works already noticed in his reports at the commencement of the Sessions of 1861 and 1862, has again occurred in two or three instances which have come to his knowledge within the past year; notwithstanding the vigilance that has been exercised to prevent a repetition of this heinous offence. The only effectual prevention of such a gross abuse,—short of the entire exclusion of the public from participating in the benefits of the Library of Parliament,—has been provided in the plan for Library accommodation in the new houses of Parliament at Ottawa; where it is proposed that indiscriminate access to the books on the shelves shall be forbidden, and the use of the book restricted to a portion of the Library Apartment that will be subjected to continual oversight of the officers and servants in charge. Hitherto, the perpetrators of these outrages have escaped detection, but when the contemplated arrangements for the care of the Library in its permanent locale shall have been duly completed, it may be confidently anticipated that the collection will be effectually secured against loss or mutilation.

"The number of volumes in the Library on the 12th February, 1863, was estimated at 51,800. Since then, about 1,500 have been added, making a total of 53,300 volumes."

After some time had been occupied in reference to absent members of Election Committees,

On motion of Hon. J. S. MACDONALD, the House adjourned at five o'clock, until Monday next, at three p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, Feb. 22, 1864.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

Several petitions were presented.

LIBRARY.

The SPEAKER laid on the table the Librarian's Report.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Hon. Mr. READ gave notice that on Thursday next he would move for a Return of the quantity of Indian Corn and Corn Meal, Bacon, Hams, Pork, and Live Hogs imported into the Province during the last five years. The House then adjourned.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, Feb. 22nd, 1864.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

PETITIONS.

The following, among several other petitions, were presented:

By Mr. WHITE.—To restrict the sale of spirituous liquors.

By Mr. LANGEVIN.—From certain inhabitants of St. Isidore, praying for an additional colonization grant.

By Mr. BELLEROSE.—From certain inhabitants of St. Vincent de Paul, relative to the Terrebonne Turpique Roads.

ST. HYACINTHE ELECTION.

Among the Petitions to be "read and received," was one from G. C. Dessaulles, and others of St. Hyacinthe, complaining of the undue election and return of Rémi Raymond, Esq., for St. Hyacinthe.

Mr. LANGEVIN—Is the petition dated? The SPEAKER (after examining the petition) said he found no date at the conclusion of the petition. It, however, bore the Speaker's endorsement of the date of the 15th October last, shewing that the required recognitions had been entered into.

Mr. LANGEVIN desired, under the circumstances, to put the question in a direct manner. Could the petition be received if it was not dated?

The SPEAKER examined the statute, and was understood to say that the law required that the election petition should be endorsed by the Speaker; but that it did not appear it was necessary that it should be dated at the conclusion.

Hon. Mr. CARTIER said the fact that the law required that the petition should be endorsed by the Speaker did not go to say that all other established formalities should be dispensed with. It was the practice of Parliament that petitions should be dated as well as signed.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD argued that if the endorsement of the Speaker showed that the petition had been filed within the required delay, all necessary formalities had been fulfilled. The Act of Parliament did not say that the petition should be dated.

Mr. LANGEVIN said that the practice of the House with regard to all petitions was that no petition should be received unless signed and dated.

The SPEAKER was understood to reply that the practice could not over-ride the law of the land as set forth by the statute.

Hon. Mr. BROWN said the date might be added to the petition at the clerk's table, on the attention of the member who presented it being directed by the Speaker to the fact that it was not dated. It might be so amended and presented in proper form next day. But nobody ever heard of a petition being rejected for such a cause, inasmuch as he had already observed—the required amendment might be so easily made.

Hon. Mr. MCGEE contended that it was in the highest degree essential that the petition should be dated. It was necessary, according to law, that an election petition should be presented within a certain delay. Now, if the petition bore no date, was there to show that it had been presented within the required time.—The Hon. gentleman cited the statute in support of his argument.

Hon. Mr. CARTIER contended that it was the practice daily observed in the House, to require the dating of all petitions. Unless duly dated, no such petition could be received.

Hon. Mr. BROWN said ever since he had been in Parliament, he had seen petitions received which were not dated. He had never heard a fatal objection to a petition on this score.

Hon. Mr. CARTIER maintained that it was necessary that all election petitions should be regularly dated, when, in fact, ordinary petitions required to have the date affixed.

Hon. Mr. McDUGALL raised a question of order. He objected to the Hon. Mr. Cartier's continuing the discussion, when the Speaker had decided the matter.

After a few words from Hon. Mr. CARTIER, in the same sense as before,

Hon. Mr. FOLEY said the complaint contained in this petition was that the person returned as member for St. Hyacinthe ought not to have been returned. If the petition be without a date, he would like to know how we could decide to what particular election it referred? If the petition was dated 1864, it would show at once reference was made to the last election; but if no date was set down, no one could say to what election the document referred. The fact of two elections for that constituency having taken place in 1863 did not tend to elucidate the matter.

Hon. Mr. ALLEYN contended that the law and practice of the House demanded the dating of all petitions of this nature.

The matter then dropped.

ELECTION COMMITTEES.

Reports were received from nearly all the Committees on contested elections relative to the absence of members of those Committees. The usual motions were made and adopted, requiring their presence in their places in the House to-morrow.

THE NEW MEMBER FOR SOUTH LEEDS.

Mr. FORD JONES, the new member for South Leeds, was introduced by the Hon. J. A. Macdonald and Hon. T. D. McGee, and took his seat on the Opposition side of the House amid loud cheers.

ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said the Government had as yet received no official intimation of the birth of an heir to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, but notwithstanding he took this, the earliest opportunity enjoyed, of presenting to the House a motion for an address of congratulation to Her Majesty the Queen, and also to Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on this auspicious event. The motion would read as follows: He would move "That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty the Queen, congratulating her on the recent increase of the Royal Family by Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales having been happily delivered of a Prince; and to express our great joy at this auspicious event."

Hon. Mr. CARTIER rose to second the motion.—He said he had no objection whatever to second the motion presented by the Hon. Attorney General West, which every member on this side of the House would willingly support. He had, at the same time, both on behalf of himself and the members on his side of the House, to express his regret at the omission of this subject from the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General. (Heat, heat, heat.) If it were true that Her Majesty's advisers were