

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD therefore withdrew his motion of adjournment, whereupon—
Mr. DUNKIN moved that the adjourned debate on the Hon. Mr. Brown's motion stand first on the Orders of the Day for Wednesday next.

Mr. COCKBURN seconded the motion.
A question arose as to whether this proceeding was in strict accordance with the proper form; but, after some conversation, it dropped and the motion was carried.
The House then—at half-past twelve—adjourned on motion of Hon. J. S. MACDONALD.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, March 15th, 1864.

The Speaker took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

TEMPERANCE PETITIONS.

As on former days, quite a number of petitions were presented, praying for the passage of the Temperance Act of 1863.

PRIVATE BILL COMMITTEE.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented a fifth report.

JOINT PRINTING COMMITTEE.

Hon. Mr. SANBORN presented the first report of the Joint Committee on Printing, which was read at the table. The report set forth that the contract for the printing of the Legislature would expire this session; that the original term was for ten years; but that subsequently it had been reduced to five years; that the present contractors had done the work satisfactorily and at low prices, and that it was recommended it should be renewed for five years longer; that a motion to that effect had been made in the Committee, which was lost by 6 to 7; and that by the same vote it had been resolved to offer it for public competition.

On motion of Hon. Mr. SANBORN, the report was ordered to be taken under consideration on the morrow.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER gave notice of a motion for an Address to His Excellency on 5th April next, stating that it would advance the public interests and promote the convenience of the Legislature if Parliament were summoned to meet not later than the 15th day of January of each year. That to this end His Excellency be requested to cause to be submitted to Parliament such amendments or modifications of the Act requiring annual returns to be made to Parliament, or any other Act on the same subject, as shall provide that the financial year shall commence on the 1st day of Nov., instead of the 1st day of January in each and every year. [Hear, hear.]

EMIGRATION.

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER gave notice that on the 6th of April next he would move that a Select Committee be appointed to take into consideration and report upon what measures should be adopted to attract to this Province a largely increased number of emigrants and settlers.

FIRST READINGS.

By Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—Bill to enable the Churchwardens of the Carlton Place Church to lease certain mineral lands thereunto belonging.

By Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER—Bill to amend the provisions of the law for the encouragement of Agriculture, Arts, and Manufactures.

ADJOURNMENT.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON gave notice of a motion to rescind the order of the House yesterday, in respect of the adjournment.

By consent of the House, the rule requiring notice was dispensed with.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON said it was well known that the other Branch of the Legislature did not intend to adjourn this week.

SEVERAL MEMBERS—No matter.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON went on to say it would be very strange for this House to adjourn a week before the other, and perhaps meet again a week in advance. Both should, if possible, sit at the same time, and proceed regularly with the business as it arose.

Hon. Mr. SIMPSON did not see why this House should follow the other in such a manner and thought it would do them good if they copied our example. There would be less improper speeches—(Order order)—out of doors. [Laughter.]

The motion was then put and lost.

BILL RELATING TO SPECIAL PROVISIONS REGARDING BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

On motion of Hon. Mr. FERGUSSON BLAIR the amendments reported by the Com-

mittee were taken into consideration and adopted.

SECOND READINGS.

Bill to provide for the giving of titles to certain lots of land sold by Mr. Herschmer in his life time.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said that Mr. Herschmer had sold certain lots of land before he died for which titles had not been given to the purchasers, who had built thereon, but who, in consequence of the want of titles, declined to account to the heirs for the value of such lots. The heirs prayed that the Bill now before the House should pass, so that the management of the estate might be placed in the hand of a competent trustee, and Hon. Mr. Seymour, a member of this House, who was a relation, was designated as the party to be entrusted with the matter.

The Bill was then read and referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.
Bill to extend the time on Bessemer's Patent.

Hon. Mr. BELLEAU explained that this was a Bill which had been brought up last session and that its object was to allow Mr. Henry Bessemer, who had made valuable discoveries in the manufacture of bar iron and steel to hold his patent for 14 years longer.

The Bill was then read and referred to the Committee on Private Bills.

Bill to incorporate the British Bank.

Hon. Mr. ROSS—This was a Bill to incorporate a new Bank. He had examined it carefully, and did not think it contained any clauses different from the usual Bank Charters.

Hon. Mr. LE YELLIER DE ST. JUST said the Bill had not been printed in French, and at his request it was postponed.

The House then adjourned.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1864.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

MONTREAL EAST ELECTION.

The Committee on the Montreal East election reported that they found that the Hon. Mr. Cartier had been duly elected, and that neither the petition nor the defence was frivolous.

PRINTING.

Mr. A. MACKENZIE, from the Joint Committee of both Houses on Printing, presented their first report, recommending that a new contract be made, by public tender, for the printing, binding, and paper required by both Houses, from the expiration of the present contract, on the 18th of January, 1865—the contract to last five years.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

To incorporate the North American Steamship Company.—Mr. Dunkin.

To provide for the succession of Trustees to the property of the St. Gabriel-street Church of Montreal, and to settle the pending litigation relative thereto.—Mr. Morris.

To incorporate the Lower Canada Copper Mining Company.—Hon. Mr. Rose.

To incorporate the Ascott Copper Mining Company.—Mr. Morris.

To incorporate the Bunker Hill Gold Mining Company.—Mr. Knight.

To incorporate the Ophir Gold Mining Company.—Mr. Knight.

To incorporate the Havelock Gold Mining Company.—Mr. Knight.

To incorporate the Guelph, Fergus and Owen Sound Railway Company.—Dr. Parker.

To amend the Lower Canada Game Act.—Mr. Paquet.

To incorporate the St. Hyacinthe Fridge Company.—Hon. Mr. Laframboise.

UNPATENTED LANDS.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD introduced a Bill to repeal Chap. 18 of the Con. Statutes for Upper Canada, entitled "An Act respecting claims to lands in Upper Canada for which no Patents have been granted, and to make other provisions respecting such claims. The hon. gentleman explained that the Bill proposed to repeal the law known as the Heir and Deviser Commission, which was composed of the Judges of the Superior Law and Equity Courts in Upper Canada, and which sat twice a year to decide on claims by the Heirs, Devises and their Assignees for unpatented land.—By the existing law an applicant for a patent might select either this Commission or the Crown Land Department for the submission of his claim—and it sometimes happened that the Judges, already too hard worked, were called upon to sit for a fortnight twice a year to consider but very few

cases, whilst the greatest number of the applications had found their way to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, where a speedy mode was provided towards arriving at a decision. The present Bill provided that all applications should hereafter be made to the Crown Land Department. Power would be given to the Commissioner to deal with all claims put before him; but in cases in which it might appear to him that intricate legal, as well as equitable points presented themselves, which ought to call for Judicial investigation, he would be authorized to make out a special case for the consideration of the Judges of either of the Superior Law Courts, whose decision would be final. Power would be given to a Judge in Chamber to call witnesses to testify on any point required in furtherance of proof to sustain the claim, if the Court should demand such proof. It was considered that very few cases would require to be referred to the Judges.

INDICTABLE OFFENCES.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD introduced a Bill to amend and consolidate the law respecting accessories to, and abettors of, Indictable Offences.

THE GOOD TEMPLARS.

Mr. H. F. MACKENZIE introduced a Bill to incorporate the Society of Good Templars of Canada.

Hon. Mr. McGEE said he was opposed to the incorporation of any secret society whatever. He had no objection to this particular society choosing the machinery of secrecy by which to operate, but he did object to that secrecy being recognized by the Legislature. Without the least desire to embarrass the society in the prosecution of its laudable ends, he felt compelled to move that the Bill be not now read a first time, but be read a first time this day six months.

Mr. H. F. MACKENZIE inquired why the hon. member should oppose the measure, when several such Bills had been passed by the Legislature and were now in existence. As to the secrets of the Society he knew nothing more than had been told him, not being a member, but he fancied the secrecy was confined to a mere password by which members were known on presenting themselves at the door for admission; and that password was changed every three months. The Society was founded expressly for promoting the cause of temperance and nothing else, and there was no secrecy, as he had been informed, about any of their proceedings, other than the passwords. The hon. member should surely shew that some evil was likely to arise from the Act of incorporation which the Society sought, for the purpose of enabling it to hold the little property which it might acquire from its small income. He hoped the hon. member would reconsider his determination.

Hon. Mr. McGEE replied that he could not withdraw his amendment. His hon. friend, the member for Kent had a Bill of a similar character before the House, and he would feel it his duty to treat it in the same manner. He could well understand that in a land of despotism and intolerance, the machinery of secrecy might well be resorted to, in order to avoid and to resist oppression, but he could not conceive it to be necessary to form secret societies in a country where there was free speech and a free press. He could not understand why any set of men should conspire together in secret for promoting any benevolent enterprise, in this Province. He did not object, however, to the existence of this society, but he did object to the Legislature being asked to recognize and give legal weight to what was done within their secret doors, of which doings the Legislature and the country generally knew nothing. It was different from incorporating a bank or other institution, because in that case, the Legislature could compel them to report their transactions to the Government for publication.

Mr. H. F. MACKENZIE would remind the hon. gentleman that almost all religious and benevolent societies were secret institutions, as well as this one. They all had their rules and regulations, and their respective terms of membership, without compliance with which no one could be admitted to full privileges. Could the hon. member go into a church to which he did not belong, and whose rules and discipline forbade him to do so, except in a certain manner, and take his place at the communion table as a recognized member of that society? (Hear, hear.) Or could he go into a meeting of bank stockholders and vote for directors, without his name being properly inscribed on the stock book? The password was nothing more than a private key which was given to members to enable them to enter the gate of the order, and was used to prevent annoyances from parties who were not members, and had no sympathy with their cause. As to publicity, he begged to say that a full report of its proceedings was published