
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY, 1870.

The House having met ;

A message was received from His Excellency the Governor General, desiring the immediate attendance of The House in the Senate Chamber :—

The House attended accordingly ; and being returned,

Mr. *Speaker* informed The House, that during the recess he had received communications from several Members notifying him that the following places had severally become vacant, viz :—

Of the Hon. *A. W. Mc.Lelan*, Member for the Electoral District of Colchester (Nova Scotia), by being called to the Senate.

Of the Hon. *John Rose*, Member for the Electoral District of Huntingdon, by resignation.

Of *John Rankin*, Esq., Member for the North Riding of the County of Renfrew, by resignation.

Of the Hon. *Christopher Dunkin*, Member for the Electoral District of Brome, by acceptance of the office of Minister of Agriculture and Statistics.

Of the Hon. *Alexander Morris*, Member for the South Riding of the County of Lanark, by acceptance of the Office of Minister of Inland Revenue, and that he had issued his several warrants to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, to make out new writs for the Election of the said places respectively.

He also informed The House that during the recess the clerk had received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Certificates of the Election and Return of the following Members, viz :—

Of *John Lorne Mc.Dougall*, Esq., for the South Riding of the County of Renfrew.

Of *Barthelemy Pouliot*, Esq., for the Electoral District of L'Islet.

Of the Hon. *Adams George Archibald*, for the Electoral District of Colchester (Nova Scotia).

Of *Julius Scriver*, Esq., for the Electoral District of Huntingdon.

Of the Hon. Sir *Francis Hincks*, K.C.M.G., C.B., for the North Riding of the County of Renfrew.

Of the Hon. *Christopher Dunkin*, for the Electoral District of Brome ; and

Of the Hon. *Alexander Morris*, for the South Riding of the County of Lanark.

The following Members having previously taken the Oath, according to law, took their seats in The House, viz —

John Lorne Mc.Dougall, Esq., Member for the South Riding of the County of Renfrew,—Hon. Sir *Francis Hincks*, Member for the North Riding of the County of Renfrew,—Hon. *Christopher Dunkin*, Member for the Electoral District of Brome,—Hon. *Alexander Morris*, Member for the South Riding of the County of Lanark,—and *Julius Scriver*, Esq., Member for the Electoral District of Huntingdon.

Hon. Sir *John A. Macdonald* introduced a Bill (No. 1.) respecting the administration of Oaths of Office.

Mr. *Speaker* reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and read a copy thereof to The House, as follows :—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons.

I recur, with confidence, to your advice, and have much satisfaction in being enabled, on the present occasion, to summon you to the discharge of your public duties at the period of the year most convenient to yourselves.

The circumstances under which we meet are in many respects auspicious. The Bounty of Providence crowned the Harvest with abundance, and made the Fisheries unusually productive ; in many districts existing industries have been enlarged, and new enterprizes have started into activity, furnishing fresh avenues for Commerce, and