

## OFFICIAL RESIDENCES.

Hon. Mr. READ also asked whether the Government intend erecting official residences for Ministers at the Capital, and stated that he made the enquiry in the interests of the country for were such residences provided, Ministers would necessarily be found always in the Capital.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL replied in the negative; he added that such residences would be very desirable.

## STANDING COMMITTEES.

On motion of Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, the Standing Committees of the House were adopted in accordance with the notice on the paper.

## MESSAGE.

A message was received from His Excellency the Governor General:

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate,—I thank you heartily for your address and for the assurances of support which it contains. I rely with confidence on your assistance in my efforts to advance the interests of the Dominion.

The House then adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 18, 1873.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

Chairmen of Select Committees made usual formal reports with respect to number of quorum.

Hon. Mr. DICKSON, from Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, reported favorably with respect to petition from Glasgow Canada Land and Trust Company.

## WELLAND CANAL.

In answer to Hon. Mr. BENSON,

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL stated that the report of the Government Engineer with respect to the Welland Canal had been submitted not long since to three engineers, Messrs. Gzowski, Keefer and McAlpine, who went to the site of the proposed works and examined the whole line between Erie and Ontario. They generally approved of the line adopted by the engineers of the Public Works Department, but suggested a slight deflection near the village of Thorold. Their views and arguments on that point were submitted to the Minister of Public Works, and the Engineer of his Department has made a second report as to their suggestions. The Government had not finally decided as to

the advisability of the change recommended by the consulting engineers.

The House then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, 19th March.

Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL introduced a bill to amend the Act to make further provision for the government of the North West Territories. Second reading on Monday next.

## COPYRIGHTS.

Hon. Mr. RYAN asked the Government whether "An Act to amend the Act respecting Copyright"—passed last Session and reserved for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure, has as yet received the Royal assent; and if not, whether it be the intention of the Government to introduce any measure of a similar tendency during the present session of Parliament? He stated that he would confine himself to the enquiry for the present, but he would probably move a resolution calling for papers at a subsequent date.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL replied that the Government had not yet been informed that Her Majesty had intimated her assent or not and so far they assumed that it was not given. He was nappy to say that a despatch has lately gone to the Colonial Office which may have the effect of procuring the assent of the Crown to the Bill.

## FREE PASSES.

Hon. Mr. MILLER moved that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House a return, showing the number and names of all persons who have passed free on any portion of the Government Railways in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick during past two years, and by whose authority, and for what cause free passes were given to such persons. He stated that the persons connected with these railways were in the habit of showing a favoritism to their friends. It was known to many that the roads were used for private convenience. It was his intention hereafter to ask for a committee to inquire into the subject.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said it was very desirable to have all the information asked for.