

Wednesday, 12th February, 1896.

The Members convened were :—

The Honourable *JOHN JONES ROSS*, Speaker,

The Honourable Messieurs

Adams,	Cochrane,	Masson,	Perley,
Aikins,	De Blois,	McCallum,	Poirier,
Almon,	Desjardins,	McClelan,	Power,
Angers,	Dever,	McDonald (C. B.),	Primrose,
Armand,	Dickey,	McInnes (N. Westm'tr),	Prowse,
Arsenault,	Dobson,	McKay,	Read (Quinté),
Baird,	Drummond,	McKindsey,	Reesor,
Baker,	Ferguson (P. E. I.),	McMillan,	Reid (Cariboo),
Bellerose,	Gowan,	Merner,	Scott,
Bernier,	Guévremont,	Miller,	Smith (Sir Frank),
Bolduc,	Kirchhoffer,	Montplaisir,	Sullivan,
Boucherville, de	Landry,	O'Brien,	Thibaudeau,
Boulton.	Lougheed,	O'Donohoe,	Vidal,
Bowell (Sir Mackenzie),	Macdonald (P. E. I.),	Ogilvie,	Villeeneuve,
Casgrain,	Macdonald (Victoria),	Owens,	Wark,
Clemow,	MacInnes (Burlington),	Pelletier,	Wood.

PRAYERS.

Pursuant to the Order of the Day, the following Petitions were severally read :—

Of James Pearson, of the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario ; praying for the passing of an Act to dissolve his marriage with Minnie Holcombe Pearson ;—and

Of the Thousand Island Railway Company ; praying for the passing of an Act extending the time for the commencement of their main line and branches, and for other purposes.

The Honourable Mr. McInnes (New Westminster), called attention to the following telegrams which appeared in the "Daily Colonist" newspaper of Victoria, British Columbia, purporting to have been sent by the Honourable Sir Mackenzie Bowell, and asked the First Minister if they are copies of telegrams sent by him to His Honour Lieut.-Governor Dewdney, the Honourable E. G. Prior, and A. Stewart Potts, respectively—namely :—

(*Colonist, Dec. 19th, 1895.*)

"OTTAWA, Dec. 14th, 1895.

"LIEUT. GOVERNOR DEWDNEY.

"Kindly ascertain from Prior if he will accept a Controliership with a seat in the Cabinet. This would give British Columbia a voice in the Cabinet.

(Signed)

"MACKENZIE BOWELL."

"MONTREAL, Dec. 17th, 1895.

"Honourable E. G. PRIOR, Victoria.

"Governor Dewdney wires me there is a misunderstanding as to your status in the Government. You are Controller of Inland Revenue, Privy Councillor, and a member of the Cabinet, and have just as much voice in the affairs of the Dominion as I have. I would have offered you nothing less.

(Signed)

"MACKENZIE BOWELL."