

On motion of Mr. MACKENZIE, His Excellency's Speech was *ordered* to be taken into consideration *to-morrow*.

*Resolved*, That the Votes and Proceedings of the House be printed, being first perused by Mr. 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

*Resolved*, That Select Standing Committees of this House, for the present Session, be appointed for the following purposes:—1. On Privileges and Elections.—2. On Expiring Laws.—3. On Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.—4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills.—5. On Standing Orders.—6. On Printing.—7. On Public Accounts.—8. On Banking and Commerce.—9. On Immigration 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 persons, papers and records.

#### REPORTS.

Mr. MACKENZIE laid before the House the General Report of the Minister of Public Works, for the fiscal year, ending the 30th June, 1876.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House the Report of the Librarian of the House of Commons, on the state of the Library of Parliament, which was read.

#### OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE DEBATES.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD inquired whether the Government had taken or proposed to take any steps with a view to procure an official report of the Debates of the Session.

Mr. MACKENZIE replied that the Government had not taken any steps, the subject being one which the House might deal with in its own discretion. The Committee charged with the desire of hon. members failed to make a report last Session until the House was so thin that there was no time to proceed with its consideration, the objection of any Member being sufficient to prevent discussion. The Government thought it was desirable to leave the question entirely in the hands of the House.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD hoped the Premier, who had considerable influence with the House, would exercise it so that the House and the country might have a correct report of the debates.

SPEECH.

Mr. BOWELL said the Committee met and adopted a report, and it was in consequence of the Chairman having neglected to present the report in time that it was not concurred in. If blame attached to any one, it was not the Committee, but to the Chairman.

Mr. CAUCHON said he brought the report immediately before the House, and he was not responsible for any delay which occurred.

House adjourned at  
Four o'clock.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, 9th Feb., 1877.

The Speaker took the chair at Three o'clock.

MR. JUSTICE LORANGER.

#### PETITION.

Mr. MOUSSEAU presented the petition of Mr. Justice Loranger denying the charges contained in the petition of François X. A. Biron and others presented against him at the close of last session, expressing his desire to undergo an investigation, and his intention of demanding one if the petition is reported, and requesting beforehand that he may be heard before the House in the event of further proceedings.

#### REPORTS.

Mr. BLAKE laid before the House the Report of the Hon the Minister of Justice, having reference to Penitentiaries.

Mr. SMITH laid before the House the ninth annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, being for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1876; also, Supplement (No. 1) to the foregoing, being a List of Lights on the coasts, rivers and Lakes of the Dominion of Canada, on the 31st December, 1876.

Mr. BURPEE laid before the House Tables of the Trade and Navigation of the Dominion of Canada, for the year ending 30th June, 1876.

#### ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

The House proceeded to the consideration of His Excellency's speech at the opening of the Session