

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Yes, and Colonel Lawrence Herchmer has been appointed his successor.

Committee rose and reported.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved:

That when the House adjourns, it stands adjourned till 11 o'clock to-day.

Motion agreed to.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to; and House adjourned at 4:48 a.m. (Wednesday).

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd June, 1886.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

RAISING OF DAMS ON MUD CREEK.

Mr. BLAKE (for Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT) asked, Whether the raising of the dams upon Mud Creek, at the outlet of Mud Lake, in the township of Bedford, was done by the authority or with the privity of the Government, or of any official of the Government?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I am told that it was not.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. BLAKE. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I desire to say a few words in reference to the state of public business. The House will recollect that, at an early hour yesterday, the First Minister, in answer to a question from the other side of the House, stated his expectation that the business of this House might close to-day and that prorogation might take place on Friday. At a later hour in the afternoon or evening, I was informed that His Excellency had been kind enough to say he would attend at any hour this evening, however late, for the purpose of prorogation, if the business of the House could be got through in time. I believed it would conduce to the convenience of hon. members of this House, after their attendance during this long and laborious Session, if that result could be achieved. I felt, however, that it would be impossible to achieve that result unless we had a late sitting of the House yesterday, and at least the usual sitting to-day, and therefore I suggested, through you, Mr. Speaker, that, if we sat late yesterday, and then met at eleven to-day, we would, in that way, get four hours and a half more than if we met at the usual hour, and we might get a full day's work in order to accomplish the result which was desired. No communication was made to me as to the hour at which it was proposed to ask His Excellency to prorogue, and I was taken by surprise when I was told that the hour was as early as half-past five. Still I thought it was right to endeavor to accomplish the result, so far as that could be done consistently with a reasonable discussion of the Estimates, and I am still ready to do my part towards the accomplishment of that result by using, as I have done privately and as I now do publicly, any influence I may have with hon. members to curtail the discussion within the narrowest limits consistent with public duty. But I desire to state that I had no idea, until the public statement was made here, that it was contemplated that prorogation would take place as early as half-past five. I shall still do all that is possible to accomplish that result,

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT,

but it was not the result I contemplated when the arrangement was concurred in. My belief was that we could, by meeting here at eleven, get a usual long day's work done by a reasonable hour of the evening, and that by that means we could get to the same result as far as the business of the House was concerned as was contemplated by the First Minister when he made the announcement in the afternoon. If we can do so earlier, I shall be only too glad. What can be done to accomplish that result shall be done, but, as I am always anxious to observe the most rigorous and absolute good faith in any arrangements to which I am a party, I think it due to myself to make the statement that this was not what I contemplated, though I am not desiring to impute any breach of faith to hon. gentlemen opposite in announcing half-past five. It was done, I suppose, because it was thought that was the meaning of the arrangement, but it was entirely opposed to the view I had entertained. In the course of the communications, the hour of ten o'clock was named to me as an hour up to which prorogation might take place.

THE FRANCHISE ACT.

Mr. DAWSON. I desire to suggest to the Government that the Franchise Amendment Bill should be printed, as amended, immediately, and sent to the revising officers. It very seriously affects the revising officers in my district.

RAILWAY BETWEEN ANNAPOLIS AND DIGBY.

Mr. VAIL. Yesterday I asked the Government whether an application had been made for the extension of the grant of \$3,200 a mile made to the road between Annapolis and Digby. The time would expire on the 1st July of this year. I was told that an answer would be given when the Minister of Railways was in his place.

Mr. POPE. I have no knowledge of any application having been made. If it has been made, I have not seen it. Does the hon. gentleman say there has been an application?

Mr. VAIL. Yes.

Mr. POPE. I have no knowledge of it. This has not been considered by the Government, but I will consider it at the first opportunity. When the hon. gentleman spoke to me yesterday, that was the first I heard of it.

Mr. VAIL. The paper has been before the Government for a fortnight. I understood some time ago that an Act was to be introduced to extend the time, and that is why I asked the question.

BOUNTY ON PIG IRON.

Mr. McLELAN moved that the resolution reported from Committee of the Whole yesterday, respecting bounty on pig iron manufactured in Canada from Canadian ore, be concurred in.

Resolution concurred in.

Mr. McLELAN introduced Bill (No. 150) respecting the bounty on pig iron manufactured in Canada from Canadian ore.

Bill read the first and second times, considered in Committee, read the third time, on a division, and passed.

AN OBSCENE PUBLICATION.

Mr. McLELAN moved that the House again resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

Mr. MULLOCK. Before the adoption of this motion, I desire to say that I have received a communication from the mayor of the city of Toronto asking me to call the