

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 7, 1868

The Speaker took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

CLAIMS FOR SERVICES IN GETTING THE RECIPROCITY TREATY

On the question of the reception of the petition of Thos. Rigney for the payment of certain claims in connection with promoting the Reciprocity Treaty,

Sir G. E. Cartier said that the view of the Government was that money petitions, the granting of which would affect the public treasury, should not be received. Such petitions should be presented to the Governor-General, and the Government of the day was bound to take notice of it. If any one interested in the petition should consider either that Government were neglecting to act on it, or were acting wrongly in not recommending to the House a money vote to meet the requirements of the petition, then any member in the House might move for the production of the petition, and take such other action as would bring on an issue between the petitioner and the Government for refusing justice.

Mr. Mackenzie—By moving a vote of want of confidence.

Sir G. E. Cartier—Yes.

Hon. J. H. Cameron, who had presented the petition, said it seemed to him a roundabout way of getting at the petition, to move for its production after Government had neglected or refused to act upon it.

Mr. Mackenzie said **Mr. Holton** expressed satisfaction with the view taken by Government.

Mr. Speaker stated that in all unprovided cases the rules of the English House of Commons governed the proceedings of this House. By a rule of the House of Commons of March 30th, 1866, it was ordered that the House should receive no petition for money from the public treasury which was not recommended by message from the Crown. He thought this rule should be adopted here, and decided that the petition should not be received.

BAGOT ELECTION

Messrs. Mills, Masson (Soulanges), Masson (Terrebonne), Merritt, and Wood, Chairman, were sworn at the Clerk's Table as a Committee to try the Bagot election.

THE FISHERIES

Mr. Fortin presented the 4th report of the Committee on Maritime and Fluvial Fisheries, as follows: "Your Committee having had under their consideration the question of the Inspection of Fisheries in the inland waters of the Dominion, recommend and deem it highly expedient that the inspection be continued, not only with a view to protect the local trade, but also with a view to the general interests accruing to the Dominion of the extensive fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the lower part of the River St. Lawrence, the waters of the Atlantic, and of our great lakes, which may be seriously affected by the destruction of fish spawning in the several rivers of the Dominion.

THIRD READING

On motion of **Sir J. A. Macdonald** the following Bills were severally read a third time and passed:—Act for the better security of the Crown and Government; Act respecting offences relating to the Coin; Act respecting forgery; Act respecting offences against the person; Act respecting malicious injuries to property; Act respecting larceny and other similar offences; Act respecting the duties of Justices of the Peace out of Sessions, in regard to persons charged with indictable offences; Act respecting the duties of Justices of the Peace out of Sessions, in relation to summary convictions; Act respecting riots and riotous assemblies; Act respecting the removal of persons in custody charged with treason or felony in certain cases; Act to amend an Act of the late Province of Canada, 25th Vic., cap. 72, by declaring the intention of the same, and confirming conveyances made by the Trust and Loan Company thereunder.