

by the government, believing in its general policy. Although I am well pleased to see Mr. Vidal chairman of the committee, yet there is a good deal of force in what my hon. friend from Richmond has said as to fair representation of the different provinces on the committee.

Hon. Mr. ALMON—If the library clock is right the committee must have adjourned five minutes before the time it was summoned to meet. I had five minutes to go from the library to attend the committee, and I met the members of the committee in the corridor coming away from the meeting. My only regret is that I was not there to vote for Mr. Vidal as chairman, which I should have done. The premature meeting was an irregularity which I hope will not occur again. There are other irregularities this session which I think might well be reformed. For instance, this session has been called at an irregular time of the year, and although we have been nearly two weeks in attendance, to-day we have an order paper with nothing on it.

Hon. Mr. POIRIER—The clerk of the committee opened the meeting by his watch, which is set by the tower clock. I find that the tower clock is about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  minutes ahead of the cannon and that might account for his unwittingly opening the committee meeting before the right time.

The motion was agreed to.

## AGRICULTURE AND IMMIGRATION

### A SUGGESTION.

Hon. Mr. BERNIER—As there seems to be nothing before the House, I ask permission of this House to call attention to a possible action. Yesterday when the report on the standing committees was moved for adoption, it was my intention to call the attention of the House to the suggestion which I am about to make, but I missed my opportunity. There is in the House of Commons a standing committee on Agriculture and Immigration. I want to ask this House whether it would not be a good thing for this House to have a similar committee, or rather a Joint Committee with the other House. It is a very important matter and would bring the Senate in close connection with the Commons on this subject. I do not know what proceedings should be taken

to have this suggestion carried out, but I did not wish to do anything before seeing whether it was agreeable to this House or not.

Hon. Mr. ANGERS—This is a subject in which my department is most interested, and I will consult the members of this House and know exactly what is the intention of the leader of the government upon the question of the usefulness of having a joint committee with the Commons, and will ascertain also if it would be agreeable to have such a joint committee. In a few days I will be in a position to give the hon. gentleman and the House information upon the subject.

The Senate adjourned at 4.10 p.m.

## THE SENATE.

*Ottawa, Wednesday, 1st May, 1895.*

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### THE COLTON DIVORCE CASE.

#### MOTION.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED moved the adoption of the first report of the Committee on Divorce *re* William Colton petition. He said: The committee found that the proceedings in this case had been regular and in accordance with the rules laid down by the House. Personal service has been effected on the respondent.

The motion was agreed to on a division.

Hon. Mr. CLEMOV introduced Bill (B) "An Act for the relief of William Wallace Colton."

The bill was read the first time.

### THE FALDING DIVORCE CASE.

#### MOTION.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED moved the adoption of the second report of the Committee on Divorce *re* Mary Bradshaw Falding petition. He said: In this case also the proceedings have been complied with as the rules direct.

The motion was agreed to on a division.