

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 6, 1868

The Speaker took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

BAGOT ELECTION

Mr. Walsh, from the General Committee on Elections, reported the following as the names of the new Committee appointed to try the merits of the Bagot Election: Messrs. Mills, Masson (Terrebonne), Masson (Soulanges), Merritt, and Wood, Chairman.

SUGAR DUTIES

Mr. Jones (Halifax), moved an address for communications from the Chambers of Commerce, etc., respecting the sugar duties. Carried.

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES

Hon. Mr. Johnson moved that a Select Committee be appointed with power to send for records and papers, and to examine witnesses as to the state of the Departmental offices, and to report to this House as to the number of deputies and employees in each, and the amount of duties and labour in each department, and the salary of each officer and employee.

Sir John A. Macdonald hoped the honourable member would postpone the motion till to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Johnson was not inclined to do so. He was afraid that if he postponed it he would lose it. If the Government had nothing to fear from the inquiry they would grant the Committee. If the number of employees was only sufficient, so much the better. Ascertaining that point would give satisfaction. If they were too numerous and too well paid, it was time there should be a change.

Mr. Speaker called attention to the fact that the motion was not seconded.

Mr. Rymal said he would second it.

Sir John A. Macdonald said he hoped that without debate this motion would be voted down. In the first place it was very important that the business should not be delayed. The return would be of no value during the

present session. Such a motion, moreover, if carried, would take the whole matter out of the hands of the Government. Again, it would, if passed, be a direct censure on the Government.

Sir G. E. Cartier opposed the motion in French.

Hon. Mr. Holton dissented altogether from the statement that this would be a vote of censure on the Government. Besides the motion was made by a supporter of the honourable gentlemen opposite, and as it was one decidedly in the direction of retrenchment, it ought to receive the support of the House.

Hon. Mr. Dorion supported the motion.

The House then voted on the motion, which was lost.

Yeas, 45; Nays, 99.

Yeas—Anglin, Bechard, Bodwell, Bourassa, Cameron (Huron), Cayley, Cheval, Coffin, Connell, Coupal, Daoust, Dorion, Fortier, Gaudet, Geoffrion, Godin, Holton, Johnson, Jones (Halifax), Kierzkowski, McDonald (Lunenburg), Macfarlane, Mackenzie, Masson (Soulanges), McClellan, McMonies, Mills, Munroe, Olivier, Paquet, Parker, Pinsonneault, Power, Ray, Redford, Ross (Dundas), Ross (Prince Edward), Rymal, Scatcherd, Senecal, Stirton, Wells, Whitehead, Wilson, Young—45.

Nays—Archambault, Ault, Beaubien, Belterose, Benoit, Bertrand, Blanchet, Bolton, Howell, Bowman, Bown, Brousseau, Brown, Burpee, Caldwell, Cameron, Campbell, Carling, Caron, Cartier, Cartwright, Casault, Chamberlin, Chauveau, Cimon, Colby, Costigan, Crawford (Brockville), Crawford (Leeds), Desaulnier, Dobbie, Drew, Dufresne, Dunkin, Ferris, Forbes, Fortin, Galt, Gaucher, Gendron, Gibbs, Gray, Grover, Heath, Howland, Hurdon, Irvine, Jackson, Jones (Leeds), Kirkpatrick, Langevin, Langlois, Lapum, Lawson, McDonald (Glengarry), Macdonald (Sir John A.), McDonald (Middlesex), McGill, Masson (Terrebonne), McCarthy, McConkey, McDougall, McGreevey, McKeaney, McMillan, Merritt, Morris, Morison (Victoria), Morrison (Niagara), O'Connor, Perry,