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 QUESTIONS OF FORM AND ORDER—*Continued.*

upon the people, the consideration thereof may not be presently entered upon, but shall be adjourned to such further day as may be appointed, and then it shall be referred to a Committee of the Whole before any resolution or vote do pass thereon." In this case the question was whether the two Resolutions and the contract should be considered as a whole. In his opinion there could be no doubt on this point; the Resolutions and contract clearly went together, for the former expressly declared that the money and land therein set forth were to be appropriated "according to the terms of the Contract transmitted by His Excellency by His Message." The 88th Rule was a good one, and was intended to prevent surprise, and to give fullest scope to the freedom of debate on matters of such importance to the people; but, in the present case, he was of opinion that such conditions had been fully observed, and that both the spirit and letter of the 54th section of the Union Act, and the 88th Rule of the House had been carried out, 153.

12. On motion for reception of Petition of Edmund Ritter and others, of Sorel, representing that there had been a failure of justice in the matter of the trial of the Election Petition complaining of an undue Return for the Electoral Division of Richelieu, and praying to be allowed to make proof thereof before the House, a point of Order was raised, that the Petition could not be received as it was an Election Petition, and the House had divested itself by law of the right of considering a Petition questioning the return of a sitting Member, 165. Mr. Speaker decided, that the Petition was irregular: 1st. Because it asked the House to sit in appeal of a judgment rendered in conformity with the provisions of the Dominion Controverted Elections Act, 1874. 2nd. Because it was not in compliance with the requirements of 30 Vic., c. 10, "An Act to provide for more effectual enquiry into the existence of corrupt practices at Elections of Members of the House of Commons," nor with those of 42 Vic., c. 6, "An Act to amend an Act to provide for more effectual enquiry into the existence of corrupt practices at Elections." In view of the fact that the Petition was in conflict with the letter and spirit of the law which governs the House in such cases, and did in effect question the right of an Honorable Member to his seat, the objection raised was well taken, and the Petition could not be received, 199.

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