

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, April 17, 1868

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

### MONTREAL EAST ELECTION

Messrs. Dunkin, McConkey, L. H. Masson, Hagar, and Blake, Chairman, were sworn at the Clerk's Table as a Committee to try the Montreal East Election.

### RATE OF INTEREST

Mr. Godin introduced a Bill to limit the rate of interest in the Dominion of Canada.

### MILITIA OF LOWER PROVINCES

Hon. Mr. Cartier laid on the table the reports of the Adjutants-General of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick on the Militia of those Provinces.

### DESPATCH FROM COLONIAL SECRETARY

Sir John A. Macdonald brought down a message from His Excellency transmitting a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies relative to the laws respecting treasonable offences.

### PROVISION FOR MR. MCGEE'S FAMILY

Sir John A. Macdonald reported that those members of this House who are of the Privy Council had presented the address of this House with which they were charged to His Excellency the Governor-General, and that he was graciously pleased to answer—That he received with great satisfaction the assurance of the intention of Her Majesty's faithful Commons to take such measures as will enable him to make a suitable provision for the widow and family of the late Hon. T. D. McGee. There could not be a more proper occasion for the exercise of the liberality of Parliament than one which enables it at the same time to mark its appreciation of the performance of public duty, and its detestation of the atrocious crime by which eminent abilities, brilliant eloquence, and untiring patriotism have been lost to the service of the country.

On motion of Sir J. A. Macdonald, the House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. E. M. McDonald in the Chair, to consider the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*—That the annual sum of \$1,200 be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, to commence from the 7th day of April, 1868, and be settled on the widow of the Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, late member of the House of Commons of Canada, for the electoral district of Montreal West, for the term of her natural life, and that the same be paid without any deduction whatever.

*Resolved*—That a sum of \$8,000 be granted to Her Majesty to be vested in the Minister of Finance of Canada for the time being, in two separate sums of \$4,000 each, for the use of each of the two children of the late Hon. T. D. McGee, late member of the House of Commons for the electoral district of Montreal West in such manner as the Governor-in-Council shall direct.

When the subject of the assassination of Mr. McGee was first brought under the notice of the House, he took occasion to state on behalf of the Government that they considered it the duty of the country to provide for the widow and children of Mr. McGee in a proper manner. The response from all sides of the House without distinction of party or section showed unmistakably that the views of the Government were shared by the House, and if anything were wanting to assure the Government that they were right in making the proposition as they did, that assurance had been given by the response of the country, east and west. He felt it unnecessary in him to repeat on this occasion what had been infinitely better said in this House at great length, and in the press of the country, respecting the merits of the deceased. It must be exceedingly gratifying to this House, as it was creditable to the press of the country, that it had proved itself equal to the occasion. The press of Canada had already furnished ample and accurate biographies describing in full detail the merits, political, personal and social, of Mr. McGee. It was especially gratifying to see how, in the notices of the deceased, there had