

Friday, 9th May, 1873.

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the Table :—

By Mr. *Witton*,—The Petition of the Members of the *Ottawa* Typographical Union, in general meeting assembled.

By Mr. *Grant*,—The Petition of the Members of the Lime Stone Cutters' Association of the City of *Ottawa*, in general meeting assembled; the Petition of the Members of the Tailors' Operative Union of the City of *Ottawa*, in general meeting assembled; and the Petition of the Members of the Plasterer's Union of the City of *Ottawa*, in general meeting assembled.

By Mr. *Beaty*,—The Petition of the Members of the *Toronto* Trades' Assembly, in general meeting assembled.

Pursuant to the Order of the Day, the following Petitions were read :—

Of the Members of the *Quebec* Typographical Union, in general meeting assembled; praying for certain amendments to the Trade Unions' Act, 1872.

Of the Reverend *John Ridley* and others, of *Font Hill*, County of *Monck*; praying for the passing of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Mr. *Joly*, from the Select Committee appointed to assist Mr. Speaker in the direction of the Library of Parliament, so far as the interests of this House are concerned, and to act as Members of a Joint Committee of both Houses on the Library, presented to the House the First Report of the said Committee, which was read, as followeth :—

The Committee have given their earnest attention to the necessity for augmenting the present collection of manuscripts illustrative of the early history of *Canada*, and of rendering such materials available for the purpose of historical enquiry.

They have learned with much satisfaction that the Minister of Agriculture and Statistics has been actively engaged during the past year in promoting this desirable object, and that further proceedings are about to be undertaken by that officer in the same praiseworthy direction.

Although they have no wish to interfere with the discretion and responsibility of the Executive Government in the matter, the Committee would, nevertheless, commend to the favorable notice of the Minister of Statistics the suggestions contained in a report hereunto appended from a Sub-Committee, to which they referred the consideration of this important question.

In view of the expressed intention of Your Honorable House to ameliorate the condition of the Civil Service by a re-adjustment of salaries, in order to compensate for the existing depreciation in the value of money, and consequent increase of prices; the Committee have directed their attention to the peculiar and isolated position of the Officers and Servants in the Library of Parliament, under the organization established by Statute in 1871. That Act required that changes in the number or salaries of the Library staff shall be specially approved by both Houses. The Committee have accordingly agreed to recommend that the sum of \$1,250 be distributed by the two Speakers amongst the Officers and Servants of the Library, as an addition to their present salaries, under the Act aforesaid; and that a further sum of \$250 be allowed to Mr. *Augustine Laperrière*, the First Library Clerk, to compensate him for not sharing in the increase made to other Officers of the Department in 1870, when the Staff of the Library was assigned to both Houses, as also for his not participating in the partial return of the sums deducted from salaries in 1867, which advantage was afforded to the employés of both Houses last Session, but not granted to any one in the service of the Library.

The proposed increases of salary to commence from the period to be hereafter agreed upon in behalf of other Parliamentary Officers.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT, 8th May, 1873.