

Wednesday, 16th April, 1884.

PRAYERS.

The following Petition was brought up, and laid on the Table:—

By Mr. *Beaty*,—The Petition of the *Toronto Painters' Union*.

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

Of the Reverend *George Porteous* and others, of *Kitley, County of Leeds, Ontario*; of the Reverend *Kenneth Mackenzie* and others; of *D. F. McRae* and others; and of *Arthur W. McCurdy*, and others, of *Baldeck*, all of *Nova Scotia*; severally praying for such amendments to the existing law as will secure a better observance of the Lord's Day.

Mr. *Ouimet*, from the Select Committee to whom was referred the Petition of *Joseph Dominique Ernest Myrand*, of the City of *Quebec*; praying for an examination of his new model of a Ballot Box, presented to the House the Report of the said Committee, which was read, as followeth :

The Committee have examined the new mechanical Ballot Box of Mr. *Ernest Myrand*;

After having carefully considered the matter, the Committee are of opinion that the new system of Balloting offers the advantages mentioned in the Petition (thereto annexed) by the said inventor, to your honourable the House, to wit :

1. Simplification of the method of voting ;
2. Doing away with conventional signs on the voting Ballots ;
3. The securing of absolute secrecy of voting ;
4. Lessening the danger of the loss of a vote ;
5. Obviating the necessity of a Judicial recount in the future.

There is nevertheless a difficulty as to adopting the system for counties, where more than one Member is to be elected ; and that, if that objection could be overcome, the Committee would have no hesitation in recommending the Box to the special attention of the House.

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, That a Message had been brought from the Senate by their Clerk, as followeth :—

The Senate have passed the Bill, intituled : “ An Act respecting the *London Life Insurance Company*,” without any amendment.

And also, the Senate have passed the Bill, intituled : “ An Act to amend the “ *Weights and Measures Act of 1879*,” with several Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

The Order of the Day being read, for the third reading of the Bill from the Senate, intituled : “ An Act further to amend the Act thirty-first *Victoria*, Chapter “ *twelve*, intituled : “ An Act respecting the *Public Works of Canada* ; ”

Sir *Hector L. Langevin* moved, seconded by Sir *Charles Tupper*, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time ;

Mr. *Davies* moved, in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Vail*, That all the words after “ *now*,” to the end of the Question, be left out, and the words, “ *re-committed to a Committee of the Whole House, with power to amend the same by adding thereto the following words, ‘ provided that no such sale or lease shall prejudice or affect any right or privilege of any riparian owner, ‘ inserted instead thereof ;*”

And the Question being put on the Amendment :—It was resolved in the Affirmative.