

Governor General, the Most Honourable, the Marquis of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G., to the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Derby, K.G.

(Received.)

Telegraphic.

Feb. 12th, 1885.—Government ready to sanction recruiting by Canada for service in Egypt or elsewhere. Force should be specially enrolled from different parts of local batallions under Imperial Army Discipline Act. Laurie preferable to Williams. I would suggest brigade of three batallions (five hundred) each from maritime provinces, Old Canada and North-west. Laurie might command brigade, and Williams one batallion. Melgund would like to serve as Brigade Major; entire cost would fall on Imperial Exchequer.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—The hon. gentleman will remember that at that time Canada had a war on her own hands—the North-west Rebellion.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I do not think it was such a war as would prevent us—

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—It cost us five millions of dollars.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—On Sir John Macdonald's motion we gave £20,000 in aid of the wounded in the Crimean War.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Had Britain been in real need of our aid, on the recent occasion, it would have been cheerfully granted, but the circumstances were not considered sufficiently urgent to justify Canada in putting its hand in the public purse without the authority of parliament and paying over a large sum towards the raising and sending abroad of another contingent. It being six o'clock, I move the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned.

### THE SENATE.

*Ottawa, Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1902.*

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

##### INQUIRY.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Before the Orders of the Day are called, I should like to inquire of the hon. leader of

the Senate why the usual practice of giving notice for the appointment of committees has not been followed? The usual course pursued in the Senate in the past has been to place a motion of that kind on the paper immediately after the usual and pro forma motions have been made, or at least, the next day. I do not find any notice given in the Minutes of Proceedings and I should like to know why, or what object or reason there is for the delay which has taken place.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—In looking up the practice which governed the House in former years I found that it was sometimes given before the Speech was answered, in other times not till after the Speech was answered. In one instance I found it was not given until after the ordinary recess, so that no formal rule has prevailed in the past. That is the inference I drew from it. I propose in this instance to adhere to the rule, and to give the notices immediately after the Speech from the Throne is answered.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I do not think that is the practice.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I will look it up again and I think I will be able to point out to my hon. friend that the statement I am making is quite in keeping with the practice in past years. I noticed one case where the committees were not struck until after the recess of the House.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I do not understand what the hon. gentleman means by the ordinary recess.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I mean the adjournment of the House. It was postponed so late, I mean on one occasion. On looking up past years, I found the practice had not been uniform in some years. In recent years it had been given the second or third day the House sat, without reference to the answer to the Speech. In other years the notice had not been given until after the debate on the Address was over, and one year I found it had not been given until after the House had adjourned, and the committees were not struck until after the adjournment. The better way will be, the moment the Address is passed to have the committees struck.