

ous Private Bills. 5. On Standing Orders. 6. On Printing. 7. On Public Accounts. 8. On Banking and Commerce. 9. On Agriculture and Colonization; which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House; and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon; with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House The Report of the Joint Librarians of Parliament. (*Sessional Papers, No. 20*).

And then The House adjourned till To-morrow.

Friday, 24th February, 1888.

PRAYERS.

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

By Mr. Curran,—The Petition of the Merchants' Marine Insurance Company of Canada.

By Mr. Ward,—The Petition of David Jackson, Junr., and others.

By Mr. Dawson,—The Petition of the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway Company.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of Parliament,

The House proceeded accordingly to take the said Speech into consideration.

Mr. *Montague* moved, seconded by Mr. *Joncas*, and the Question being proposed; That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General to thank His Excellency for his gracious Speech at the opening of the present Session, and further to assure His Excellency that we receive with much pleasure His Excellency's expression of gratification at meeting us once more at the commencement of the Parliamentary Session, and of congratulation upon the general prosperity of the country.

That we are glad to learn that, although the labours of the husbandman have not been rewarded in some portions of the Dominion by an adequate return, the harvest of last year has, on the whole, been plentiful, while in *Manitoba* and the *North-West Territories* it was one of remarkable abundance.

That we are pleased to be informed that the negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and that of the *United States* for the adjustment of what is known as "The Fishery Question," have resulted in a Treaty which we venture to hope, with His Excellency, may be considered by us as honourable and satisfactory to both nations.

That we thank His Excellency for his assurance that the Treaty, with the papers and correspondence relating thereto, will be laid before us, and that any measure to give effect to its provisions will receive our careful consideration.

That we learn with interest that the extension and development of our system of railways have not only rendered necessary additional safeguards for life and pro-