

the Legislature, made the question one which the Government was obliged to consider very carefully, perhaps anxiously. In reply, he begged to state the question was still under the careful consideration of the Government.

Hon. Mr. REESOR said he was led to make the motion in his hands from the fact that he saw among the names of those who acted as attorneys to the parties subscribing stock in this Canada Pacific Railway Company, the name J. A. Macdonald. It was quite possible it might not represent the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald; but if it did, it placed him in a peculiar position, as acting in a double capacity, both as chairman or a principal in a company, and as representing the people of Canada, in letting this contract. The necessity for this return might be removed if the Postmaster General could say that the present J. A. Macdonald was not the hon. Premier. If not, he (the mover.) thought the return should be brought down. He moved, that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General; praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House copies of all powers of Attorney used by J. A. McDonald, J. J. C. Abbott, H. N. Nathan, jr., and D. and M. N. Smith, on behalf of F. Cumberland, D. McInnis, J. B. Beaudry, jr., J. S. Helmsken, and Andrew McDermot in their subscription of certain articles of agreement in reference to the Canada Pacific Railway, dated the 31st day of January last, and also in the subscription of stock for the formation of a company for the construction of the said railway, also dated 31st day of January last.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said the J. A. Macdonald mentioned in the paper was the Right Honourable Sir John A. Macdonald, the Premier and Head of the Government. (Cheers). So far as the significance of his name was concerned, he (Mr. Campbell) need not send for papers, because he had no power of attorney. There was no power of attorney. He acted under private authority, authority of another nature. As to the other part of the address, relative to the power of Attorney which J. J. C. Abbott and M. N. Smith and others acted upon there was no objection. He (the Postmaster General) did not know on what authority they acted.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST suggested that as the Government were willing to give the answer as to the Premier, as just heard, it would be as well to state there was no such power of At-

torney as regards Sir John A. Macdonald, and then give the papers as respects the other parties.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL assented to the address as thus altered

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CONTRACT.

Hon. Mr. CHRISTIE said he wished to drop the notice on the paper, under his name, on this subject, and to substitute therefor another. On Thursday next he would move, "That a Committee be appointed to enquire into and report from time to time on all matters relative to the contract for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, granted to Sir Hugh Allan and his associates, prior and subsequent to its being signed, with power to send for persons, papers, records and telegraphic despatches by Atlantic cable or otherwise, including all communications between Sir Hugh Allan or any of his associates now in England, and the government or any member thereof, or any person in their behalf.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of the bill relating to a Central Prison for Ontario. He said it was not printed, but would be shortly. He hoped, however, the second reading would be agreed to in the meantime.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER objected to the second reading till the bill was printed and before members. He complained of the way in which the government printing contracts had been signed and executed. There were frequent delays, most important bills and papers not being submitted till long after the proper periods. He would object hereafter to the consideration of all measures not printed even in French.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL admitted the right to object, but said it would be difficult to get on with the public business if the rule was enforced strictly. The government were not to blame for the delays.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Campbell the order of the day was discharged, the bill standing for second reading on Wednesday.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Aikins, a similar course was taken with regard to the Port Wardens' Law Amendment Bill—Montreal and Quebec.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER moved the discharge of the 6th order for the second reading of the Provincial Legislators disqualification for the House of Commons Bill [from the Commons], and the second reading on Wednesday. Carried.

Hon. Mr. FERRIER moved the second reading of the Three Rivers Bank Incorporation Bill [from the Commons] and its