

No. 41.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY, 1881.

PRAYERS.

Four Petitions were brought up, and laid on the Table.

Mr. Speaker informed The House, that he had received from the Governor General's Secretary, the following letter:—

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
OTTAWA, the 15th February, 1881.

SIR,

I am directed by the Governor General to inform you, that it is His Excellency's intention to proceed to the Senate Chamber to day at 3.30 P.M., for the purpose of assenting in Her Majesty's name to a certain Bill passed by the Senate and House of Commons.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant

F. DE WINTON, Lt. Col. R.A.,
Governor General's Secretary.

The Honorable

The Speaker of the House of Commons.

Mr. Speaker gave his decision on the *Richelieu Election Petition*, which is as follows:—

“After having given a most careful consideration to the Petition of *Edmund Ritter*, and others, of Sorel, representing that there has been a failure of justice in the matter of the trial of the Election Petition complaining of an undue Return for the Electoral Division of *Richelieu*, and praying to be allowed to make proof before this House of the allegations therein made, I am of opinion that, the same cannot be properly received, for reasons which I now propose to state.

The Petition sets forth, that on the 4th November, 1878, a Petition was fyled in pursuance of the Statute in the Superior Court at Sorel, by two duly qualified Electors, contesting the Election of the Member elect for *Richelieu* for corrupt practices by himself and agents. Later in the same month a counter Petition was fyled by the Member elect against Mr. *Barthe*, his opponent at the said Election. On the day appointed for the trial, Mr. Justice *Gill* dismissed the two Petitions for want of proof. His judgment, declaring the sitting Member duly elected, was forwarded to this House, in accordance with the law governing such matters, and was recorded in the Journals.