

Election of any Member, he is to withdraw during the time the matter is in debate; and all Members returned upon double returns are to withdraw until their Returns are determined.

Resolved, 2nd.—That if it shall appear that any person has been elected or returned a Member of this House, or hath endeavoured so to be, by bribery or any other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

Resolved, 3rd.—That the offer of any money or other advantage to any member of the House of Commons, for the promoting of any matter whatsoever, depending or to be transacted in the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, is a high crime and misdemeanor, and tends to the subversion of the Constitution.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House, the Report of the Librarian of the House of Commons, on the state of the Library of Parliament.

The number of books in the Library at the opening of last session, was estimated at 61,500 volumes. Since then, about 1,500 volumes have been added; making a total of 63,000.

SENATE.

OTTAWA, Feb. 16, 1870.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

SEIGNIORY OF TWO MOUNTAINS.

Hon. Mr. FERRIER introduced a petition from the Chiefs and Indians of Oka in the Seignior of the Lake of Two Mountains, praying to have their lands, composing the Seignior of the Lake of Two Mountains, restored to them, and the removal of the priests of the Seminary of St. Sulpice therefrom.

The Order of the Day being read for the consideration of His Excellency's Speech from the Throne,

On motion of Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, seconded by Hon. Mr. MITCHELL, it was ordered, that the same be postponed until to-morrow.

ROUTINE BUSINESS.

The Hon. Mr. MITCHELL presented a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Act

respecting the treatment and relief of Sick and Distressed Mariners." Bill was read the first time.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER introduced a petition from the inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands, praying for the establishment of a School of Navigation for seamen.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER introduced a petition from the same, asking for the building of a Light House on Birds Island, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where two wrecks took place last year.

Hon. Mr. TESSIER introduced a petition for deepening the rivers along the coast of Gaspe, and specifically for deepening Cap Chat River.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OTTAWA, Feb. 16, 1870.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

PURITY OF PARLIAMENT.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he felt it to be his duty, at the earliest possible moment, to call the attention of the House to the question which had arisen out of the events with which the House was as familiar as they could be, from the documents in the public journals, and which affected the seat of the late Commissioner of Public Works. He did not propose to go into any statement of the case, or offer any opinion as to the right of that honourable gentleman to a seat. He regarded the question as one involving some difficulty, and one which should be approached in a non-partisan spirit. (Hon. Sir J. A. Macdonald: "Hear, hear.") It should be dealt with as a judicial question. But the question having arisen, they could not with due regard to the Judges and the independence of the House properly ignore it. He therefore, took this, the earliest opportunity, of bringing the matter to the notice of the House, and especially to the notice of the leader of the Government, whose distinctive duty it was to guard the rights, and privileges, and purity of this House, with the view of inviting him to take such action as may be fit and proper at the earliest opportunity. His own view was, that the proper course to be taken was this: When the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections was appointed, as it would be soon, the papers relating to the appointment of Hon. Mr. McDougall should be referred to them, and the constitutional and legal points connected with the case