
 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE.

The Special Committee, being summoned by the Clerk of the House, met on Saturday, the 9th May, 1868, at 12 noon.

Present :

Messrs. Mackenzie, Morrison, McCallum and Simpson.

Mr. Morrison was called to the Chair.

The Chairman read the Petition and the affidavits attached. After deliberation it was ordered, that the Chairman summons Sir John A. Macdonald, and Mr. Speaker Cockburn, to attend before the Committee at the next meeting, with the view of obtaining from them the grounds on which the late Government of Canada seized and detained the *Georgian*, also to summon the Petitioner to appear at the same time.

Committee adjourned until Monday, the 11th instant.

Committee met on Monday, 11th May, at 9 o'clock, A.M.

Present :

Messrs. Morrison, Mackenzie, Simpson and McCallum.

The Chairman reported that he had served notices on Sir John A. Macdonald, Mr. Speaker Cockburn and the Petitioner, to appear before the Committee.

Petitioner appeared, and handed in a written statement in support of the allegations contained in his Petition, which was read.

Mr. Speaker Cockburn attended and gave some evidence, but would not state the grounds on which the Government seized and continued to detain the vessel, alleging that the Public interest required that the Government should not communicate further information on the subject than what was contained in Hyam's affidavit. Sir John A. Macdonald did not appear.

Committee adjourned to meet at the call of the Chairman.

In accordance with the Chairman's call the Committee met on Friday, the 15th instant.

Present :

Messrs. Morrison, Mackenzie, Simpson and McCallum.

Petitioner asked leave of the Committee to examine Gilbert McMicken, Esquire, and Sergeant-Major Cummins, in regard to the veracity and character of Godfrey J. Hyams, who made the affidavit on which the Government seized and detained the *Georgian*.

The Committee deliberated and granted the petitioner's request. Gilbert McMicken and Sergeant-Major Cummins were examined by the Committee.

Petitioner requested to allow his Counsel, Hon. J. Hillyard Cameron, to appear before the Committee. The Committee granted the request. The Hon. J. Hillyard Cameron was heard in support of the Petitioner's case.

Mr. Mackenzie having interrupted Mr. McCallum at the time he was putting a question to the witness Cummins, which Mr. McCallum resented; the question of Order having been raised, the Chairman decided that Mr. Mackenzie was out of Order. This was disputed and Mr. Mackenzie ordered the room to be cleared, which was done. After deliberation on the question of order, the Committee maintained the ruling of the Chair: Thereupon Mr. Mackenzie withdrew from the room.

The Committee again deliberated, and it was agreed to adjourn and to meet again at the call of the Chair.

In accordance with the Chairman's call the Committee met on Monday, the 18th instant, at 9 A.M.

Present :

Messrs. Morrison, McCallum and Simpson.

After deliberation, the Committee agreed and unanimously adopted their report, and requested the Chairman to sign the same, and present it to the House as soon as possible.

A. MORRISON,
Chairman.