

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

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Tuesday, November 19, 1867

The Speaker took the Chair at three o'clock.

**Mr. Dufresne** presented the petitions of George Baby, Esq., against return of F. B. Godin for the District of Joliette.

**Hon. J. S. Macdonald** presented the petition of B. Hutchins, Esq., against the return of the Hon. J. J. C. Abbott for the County of Argenteuil.

**Hon. Mr. Kierzkowski** presented the petition of R. E. Fontaine against the return of P. S. Gendron for the County of Bagot.

**Mr. Huot** presented the petition of Adolphe Gagnon against the return of F. X. Cimon for the County of Charlevoix.

**Hon. Mr. Cartier** presented the petition of the Hon. J. C. Chapais, complaining of the return for the District of Kamouraska and claiming the seat.

**Mr. Fortier** presented the petition of Mr. Lanctot against the return of Hon. G. E. Cartier for Montreal East.

**Mr. Casault** presented the petition of J. A. N. Provencher against the return of Mr. Fortier for the District of Yamaska.

**Mr. Simard** presented the petition of L. B. Massue against the return of F. Geoffrion for the District of Vercheres.

**Hon. Mr. Dorion** presented the petition of L. B. Caron against the return of B. Pouliot for the County of L'Islet.

**Mr. Archambault** presented the petition of J. Lanouthe against the return of the Hon. A. A. Dorion for the District of Hochelaga.

**Mr. McCarthy** presented the petition of S. Franchemontagne against the return of A. H. Paquet for the District of Berthier.

**Hon. Mr. Dorion** presented the petition of P. V. Valin against the return of P. G. Huot for the electoral Division of Quebec East.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

**Sir John A. Macdonald** from the committee appointed to strike the select standing committees of the House, presented lists of such committees which were concurred in.

## PRINTING COMMITTEE

**Mr. Mackenzie** moved that a message be sent to the Senate, requesting that body to unite with this House in the formation of a joint committee on printing.—Carried.

## GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

**Sir John A. Macdonald** moved that in addition to Tuesday and Friday, as at present, Thursday be a day for Government business—that on those days, after Government business, other business may be taken up, and that on Mondays and Wednesdays after the business in hand of private members is gone through with, Government business may be taken up.—Carried.

**Mr. Holton** said he entirely approved of this motion as likely to accelerate business in the House, but he desired to ask whether the leader of the Government would now or on an early day state what measure Ministers proposed introducing to the House and pressing to a final passage during this part of the session. It seemed to be generally understood that the session was to be divided into two parts—one to be brought to a close as early as possible in December, and that an adjournment should then take place to give the Government time and opportunity to elaborate the measures which they were not now prepared to submit. This under the actual circumstances of the case seemed a reasonable course for the Government to pursue, but he thought it right that the Government should communicate to the House the order in which they proposed to deal with the public business.

**Sir John A. Macdonald** said it was the intention of the Government to divide the session into two parts. The Government of the Dominion was formed on the 1st of July and very soon afterwards the members had to devote their time to their own elections