

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, April 3, 1868

The Speaker took the Chair at three o'clock.

ELECTION PETITIONS

The General Committee on Privileges and Elections reported that the following members had been chosen to serve upon the Select Committee for trial of the Argenteuil election petition, viz., Messrs. Cartwright, Daoust, Colby, Ault, and Webb, Chairman; and that they had appointed the following days for trial of the undermentioned election petitions, viz., Montreal East, 15th April; Berthier, 16th April; Vercheres, 20th April; and Hochelaga, 21st April.

The following members were then sworn at the table to serve upon the St. Hyacinthe Election Select Committee, viz., Messrs. Bechard, D. A. McDonald, Barton, Chamberlin, and Pozer, Chairman.

Upon the motion of **Mr. Walsh**, it was resolved that the House do adjourn at six to half-past seven this evening, to enable the St. Hyacinthe Select Committee to sit during the interval.

STEAMBOAT INSPECTION, ETC.

Sir J. A. Macdonald introduced a Bill respecting the inspection of steamboats and the increased protection to passengers therein, which was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for Monday.

CIVIL SERVICE

Hon. Mr. Rose moved that on Tuesday the House go into Committee of the Whole to consider resolutions relative to the Civil Service.
—Carried.

EXTRADITION TREATY

On motion of **Sir John A. Macdonald**, the Bill respecting the Extradition Treaty with the United States was read a third time.

Mr. Chamberlin moved an amendment to allow a delay of seven days within which a prisoner might appeal to the Judges of the

Supreme Court before being extradited on a commitment by a Magistrate. This, he said, would prevent the recurrence of what had happened in the Lamirande case.

Sir John A. Macdonald said that after further consideration, since the matter was formally before the House, he had decided not to oppose the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to, and the Bill then passed.

THIRD READINGS

On motion of **Sir John A. Macdonald**, the following Bills were also read a third time and passed:—

Bill respecting the security to be given by officers of Canada.

Bill respecting inquiries concerning public matters.

COMMISSIONS AND OATHS OF OFFICE

On motion of **Sir J. A. Macdonald**, the House went into Committee on the Bill respecting Commissions and Oaths of Office—**Mr. D. A. McDonald** in the Chair.

Sir J. A. Macdonald said he proposed to amend the form of Oath of Allegiance given in the Bill, by striking out the words "I hereby renounce all pardons and dispensations, etc." which words, he considered, implied an unworthy suspicion on Her Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects.

Hon. Mr. McGee expressed his great satisfaction that these words, which had now no force, should be omitted.

Hon. Mr. Anglin said he had intimated to the Minister of Justice his intention of moving this amendment, and was happy he had anticipated him.

Hon. Mr. Dunkin and **Mr. Blake** expressed the opinion that it would be better to adopt the short form of Oath of Allegiance given in the Union Act, as follows: "I, A.B., do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty, Queen Victoria."

Sir J. A. Macdonald said he would postpone the Bill with the view of consideration this suggestion.