

and that your wisdom and patriotism may enlarge the prosperity of the Dominion, and promote in every way the well-being of its people.

On motion of Sir John Macdonald, His Excellency's Speech was ordered to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Resolved,—That Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session be appointed for the following purposes:—1. On Privileges and Elections.—2. On Expiring Laws.—3. On Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.—4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills.—5. On Standing Orders.—6. On Printing.—7. On Public Accounts.—8. On Banking and Commerce.—9. On Agriculture and Colonization,—which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House; and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon; with power to send for persons, papers and records.

On motion of Sir John Macdonald, a Special Committee of seven Members was appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed, Lists of Members to compose the *Select Standing Committees* ordered by the House this day, to be composed of Sir John Macdonald, Sir Hector Langevin, Sir Richard Cartwright, Sir John Thompson, and Messrs. Bowell, Laurier and Mills (Bothwell).

Mr. Speaker also laid before the House, the Report of the Joint Librarians of Parliament, on the state of the Library of Parliament for 1890-91, which is as follows:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Librarians of Parliament have the honour to report as follows:—

Several important additions have been made to the section of old works on Canada.

We may here mention the *Fac-similes of manuscripts in European Archives relating to America* (1773-1783) 6 vols. folio. They contain valuable information on the period of the War of Independence.

*The Generall Historie of Virginia*, by Capt. John Smith, edition of 1624, one of the earliest. A very scarce volume.

*The Examiner*, containing political essays on the most important events of the time, edited by B. Gardenier, 4 vols. 1813 to 1815. Very important for the War of 1812. A complete set is very scarce.

Two numbers of the *Relations des Jésuites* have been added to the collection, which now consists of 32 vols. A complete series is made up of 42 *Relations*. The new *Relations* are those of 1668-69 and that of Father Dablon (1671-72).

*L'Histoire du Canada*, by Gabriel Sagard Théodat. Edition of 1636.

*Journal of the Siege of Louisbourg* (1745), by Wm. Shirley.

*Heriot's History of Canada*, 1804. This is the first history of our country published in the English language.

*Discussion sommaire sur les anciennes limites de l'Acadie*. Basle, 1755.

*Remarks on the French Memorials concerning the Limits of Acadia*. Lond., 1756.

The following newspapers have also been secured:—

*Le Spectateur Canadien*. Montreal, 1814-18.

*L'Aurore*. Montreal, 1817-19.

*Le Courrier du Bas-Canada*. Montreal, 1819.

*The Canadian Spectator*. Montreal, 1822-28.

*Le Canadien*. Quebec, 1824-25.

*The Vindicator*. Montreal, 1831-32.

The intention of the Government to introduce a Criminal Law Amendment Bill having been announced early in the year, the Librarians deemed it advisable to provide the necessary authorities for study and debate. The latest editions of the text books have therefore been procured; and copies of all the Reports of Royal Commissions in England on the Criminal Law have been provided in duplicate.