

under the Divine guidance to discharge with dignity and effect the high trust committed to your care.

Mr. FOSTER moved :

That the Address with which His Excellency has been pleased to open the session be taken into consideration on Tuesday next, the 7th inst.

Motion agreed to.

#### SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. FOSTER moved :

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 inquire 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.

Motion agreed to.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. FOSTER moved :

That when the House adjourns this day it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next, the 7th inst., at 3 o'clock p.m.

Motion agreed to.

#### REPORT.

Joint Report of the Librarians of Parliament.—(Mr. Speaker.)

Mr. FOSTER moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 3.50 p.m.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, 7th January, 1896.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

#### NEW MEMBERS.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House had received from the Clerk of the Crown

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in Chancery, certificates of the Election and Return of the following Members, viz. :—

Of James McShane, for the Electoral District of Montreal Centre ; and

Of William Stubbs, for the Electoral District of Cardwell.

#### MEMBERS INTRODUCED.

Henry A. Powell, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of Westmoreland, N.B., introduced by Hon. Mr. Costigan and Hon. Mr. Foster.

William Stubbs, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of Cardwell, introduced by Mr. McCarthy and Mr. O'Brien.

James McShane, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of Montreal Centre, introduced by Mr. Laurier and Mr. Devlin.

#### SAFETY OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES AND PASSENGERS.

Mr. CASEY moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 2), further to secure the safety of railway employees and passengers. He said: This is, in substance, the Bill I introduced last year, and for which I was unable to get a second reading. If there happens to be a session this year, I hope to obtain full consideration for the Bill.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

#### DRAINAGE ON PROPERTY OF RAILWAY COMPANIES.

Mr. CASEY moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 3), concerning drainage on the property of railway companies. He said: This is a Bill similar to the Bill I introduced last year on the same subject.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

#### MINISTERIAL RESIGNATIONS.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are called, I have an important statement to make to the House. Since the opening of Parliament, seven members of the Cabinet have tendered their resignations to the Prime Minister, which were submitted to the Governor General and accepted by His Excellency. The gentlemen whose resignations have been accepted are :—The Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Finance ; the Hon. John Haggart, Minister of Railways and Canals ; the Hon. Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, Minister of Justice ; the Hon. William Bullock Ives, Minister of Trade and Commerce ; the Hon. Arthur R. Dickey, Minister of Militia and Defence ; the Hon. Walter H. Montague, Minister of Agriculture ; the Hon. John F. Wood, Controller of Customs. At the next meeting of the House I hope to be in a position to state