

May 1st, 1872

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 1st, 1872

The **SPEAKER** took the chair at 3 p.m. Several petitions were read.

Prayers

A PETITION BY TELEGRAPH

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented a petition, which he said was scarcely regular, but he thought it was his duty, with the consent of the House, to read it. The petition came from parties at Fort Garry who thought they could present a petition by telegraph. He had received it in the form of a telegram, and if the House had no objection, he would read it in order to have the wishes of the petitioners made known.

The following is the text:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA

Whereas we, who were imprisoned in 1869 and 1870, have received by telegraph a list of the awards for losses made by Commissioner Johnson, and sanctioned by the Privy Council;

Whereas, we deem these awards an outrage on all principles of equity;

Whereas some of us, who have lost our all and literally more than Dr. Schultz, have been awarded two dollars per day for imprisonment, while he has been recompensed at the rate of ten dollars per day;

Whereas it would seem that no system whatever has been followed in making the awards;

Whereas, the list on the face of it bears evidence of the fact that certain personal considerations entered largely into its concoction;

And whereas we believe that duplicity on the one hand, and culpable pliability on the part of the Government on the other, have inflicted on us a grievous wrong:

We humbly beg your Honourable House, before voting the awards, to take steps to make a fuller and more impartial investigation into our losses and claims. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c

By **Mr. FERGUSON** —Petition of the Huron and Lake Erie Canal Company.

Of the Toronto Corn Exchange praying for a line of steamers to

open up trade to Halifax in Nova Scotia.

By **Mr. SHANLY** —For a Railway to connect Ottawa with Montreal.

Of the Chairman of the Board of Commerce, Greenock, Scotland, &c., praying for certain measures to prevent the desertion of seamen in Canada.

A Petition was read from Major Bernard, of Douglstown, District of Gaspé, Province of Quebec, stating that he was literally dead and praying for a pension. He (Major Bernard) had been injured, was sorry to succumb, but necessity knew no law, his shoulder had been dislocated, his ribs broken, and his memory affected. He hoped he would not meet with the reply of “no friends” (*Great laughter*). He had lately lost two situations because he was unable to keep them.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) introduced a Bill to assimilate the law of Nova Scotia with those of other parts of the Dominion in respect to interest.

Mr. WORKMAN moved, in the absence of Mr. Ryan, member for Montreal West, for leave to introduce a Bill to incorporate the Anticosti Company.

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT moved for leave to introduce a Bill to incorporate the Canada and Newfoundland Sealing and Fishing Company.

Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN submitted a report relating to the accident on the Windsor and Halifax Railway and other matters.

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QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Mr. BENOIT: Whether it is the intention of the Government to place funds at the disposal of the Honourable, the Minister of Agriculture, for the purpose of causing to be held an exhibition of cattle, agricultural and horticulture produce and objects of art invention, &c., from all parts of the Dominion for the year 1872.

Hon. Mr. POPE: It is not the intention of the Government to do so.

Mr. BENOIT: Whether it is the intention of the Government to make to the Boards or Councils of Agriculture in each Province, or to Agricultural Societies, grants of money which will enable them to promote the progress of Agriculture throughout the whole Dominion?