

Government and persons tendering for the same; also, copies of all contracts for the construction of the several portions thereof." He said an address had been adopted last session for "copies of all correspondence between the Government and the contractors for the construction of the Pacific Telegraph, and copies of all contracts for the several portions thereof," but, unfortunately, the returns brought down did not include all the information desired, and he now made this motion in order to have complete information on the subject submitted to the House. He made this motion thus early in the Session, because last year some six or seven weeks elapsed before the returns were brought down. He had intended to make some remarks on the subject, but deferred them until the papers were brought before the House.

The motion was agreed to.

#### THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT moved the appointment of the Standing Committees. He said they were the same as last year, the only changes being the substitution of the Hon. Mr. Thibeau's name for the late Hon. Mr. Wilson's, and the addition of Hon. Mr. Alexander's to the Contingent Accounts Committee.

The motion was agreed to.

The House adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

#### THE SENATE.

*Monday, Feb. 18th.*

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

After Routine proceedings

#### THE HUNTER DIVORCE CASE.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS moved that the petition of Hugh Hunter, praying for divorce from his wife be received.

Hon. Mr. MILLER asked to have it laid over until to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS said he saw no necessity for it, and would prefer to have the petition received without delay.

Hon. Mr. MILLER said there was not sufficient evidence that the person who served the notice upon the wife of Hunter was acquainted with her.

*Hon. Mr. Aikins.*

Hon. Mr. AIKINS said she had been pointed out to him by a man who was present at her marriage with Hunter.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY thought there would be no delay in letting it stand for a day, inasmuch as the Private Bills Committee was not yet organized, and the petition could not go before them even if it were received.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS said it was called to meet to-morrow and it was important that the petition should be read now, in order that delay might be avoided.

Hon. Mr. MILLER raised the point of order, that no notice of motion had been given.

The SPEAKER ruled that the motion was in order.

The motion was agreed to on a division.

#### ST. PETER'S CANAL.

Hon. Mr. MILLER moved:—"That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General, praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before this House, all reports, surveys, plans or alteration of plans, contracts or assignment of contracts, and Orders in Council, made within the last two years, in connection with the enlargement of St. Peter's Canal, in the Island of Cape Breton." He said he presumed the Government would have no objection to lay these papers on the table, and he would feel very much obliged if they would do so as early as possible, as he wished to reserve the remarks he had to make on this subject until the papers were before the House.

The motion was agreed to.

#### MAIL IRREGULARITIES IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Hon. Mr. MILLER moved:—"That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General, praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before this House, copies of all correspondence between the Post-office Inspector for Nova Scotia and any other person or persons, during the months of November, December, and January last past, in relation to mail irregularities between the Post-offices of Arichat, Hawkesbury, and Antigonish in the said Province, and all evidence obtained and reports made by the said Inspector in connection with the