

tions; also to the negotiations between France and Prussia about Luxemburg, and to the part played by the Quadrilateral in saving Austria during the late Italian war. He expected the resolutions he had now the honour to submit would be accepted almost unanimously by the House. The member for Lambton had stated he would move an amendment, but he believed the honourable gentleman himself would be pleased if his amendment were defeated by an overwhelming majority. His (Sir George's) intention was not to press a vote to go into Committee to-day. He wished to have the discussion go on with the advantage of having the Speaker in the Chair, and after it had gone on for some time he would move for an adjournment of the debate, that every member might have an opportunity of full reflection before the vote was taken.

BAGOT ELECTION COMMITTEE

The names of the members appointed to serve as the Bagot Election Committee, were here called. All were present except the Chairman, Mr. Joly, who is absent from the city.

Mr. Walsh moved that Mr. Joly be taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms. Carried.

THE FORTIFICATION QUESTION

Hon. Mr. Holton asked whether in the event of the debate appearing to be fully exhausted this evening, the Minister of Militia would still want its adjournment.

Sir G. E. Cartier said such was his intention. Government wished the subject to be thoroughly discussed. Some members who were absent might wish to take part in the debate, and would have an opportunity of doing so on Tuesday.

Hon. Mr. Holton thought if that were the view of the Government that they should wait for the presence of some gentlemen now absent. The debate had better be adjourned at once, and he would recommend the member for Lambton not to move his amendment until the debate came up in order to be fairly decided.

Mr. Mackenzie said after the statement of the Minister of Militia, he would not move his amendment now but reserve it until the debate was taken up with a reasonable probability of its being proceeded with to a conclusion.

Sir John A. Macdonald thought the member for Lambton was afraid to place his answer to the Minister of Militia and his amendment before the country to be considered in connection with Mr. Cartier's speech. (Oh, oh!) he would rather rise at the last moment and submit an amendment, to be disposed of at once, before the House and country had had time to weigh it.

Mr. Mackenzie said he had faced both the Minister of Militia and the Minister of Justice for some years, and had never been much terrified by either of them. He had told the Minister of Militia yesterday that he had his amendment ready, and asked if he thought it should be printed. The honourable gentleman thought it unnecessary. If he had thought it should be printed it would have appeared in the votes and proceedings to-day. In order fully to meet the taunt of the Minister of Justice, he begged now to hand in his amendment to the Clerk as a notice of motion. (Hear, hear.) The amendment was as follows:—"That the question of the erection of permanent works of defence should form a subject of inquiry by a special commission or select committee—first as to the necessity for and utility of such works and the relative share of the burden thereof to be borne by the Colonial and Imperial authorities respectively. Secondly—The system of defence deemed necessary, the character of the works, their extent, locality and cost; and that pending such inquiry and report to Parliament, it is not expedient to vote any sum of money for fortifications of the nature, extent, utility and cost of which this House is uninformed."

Hon. Mr. Dorion made some comments on the singular course of the Government in determining to have this debate adjourned. It was generally understood that business was to be hurried forward so as to have a prorogation in a fortnight. It seemed as if it was intended by the Government to delay these resolutions till the very end of the session, when they would be pushed through at a time when there was no inclination for discussion, and when many members would be absent.

Hon. Mr. Johnson insisted that the Minister of Militia should bring down the details of the expenditure proposed, in order to give the House an idea of how it was to be appropriated—that there was no precedent for voting a sum like this en bloc.

Sir J. A. Macdonald moved that the debate be adjourned. Carried.