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Honorable Mr. *Blanchet*, the Honorable Mr. *Beaubien*, Mr. *Cartwright*, Mr. *McDonald* (*Lunenburg*), Mr. *O'Connor*, and Mr. *Beaty*, be appointed to report upon the subject of reporting and publishing the Debates of this House.

The Honorable Sir *John A. Macdonald*, a Member of the Honorable the Privy Council, delivered to Mr. Speaker, a Message from His Excellency the Governor General, signed by His Excellency.

And the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members of the House being uncovered, and is as followeth :—

JOHN YOUNG,

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—*

Accept my thanks for the dutiful terms of Your Address, and the assurances it conveys of attention to the various important measures which will be submitted to you.

Ottawa, 28th February, 1870.

And then The House adjourned till To-morrow.

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Friday, 4th March, 1870.

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the Table :—

By the Honorable Mr. *Campbell*,—The Petition of the Diocesan Synod of *Nova Scotia*.

By Mr. *Scriver*,—The Petition of *Samuel W. Foster* and others.

By Mr. *Cameron* (*Inverness*),—The Petition of *Alexander Campbell*, M.P.P. and others, of *Broad Cove*, and *Broad Cove Intervale* Polling District.

By the Honorable Mr. *Carling*,—The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of *London* (*Canada West*.)

The Honorable Sir *John A. Macdonald*, from the Select Committee appointed to consider and report as to the papers connected with the *North-West Territories*, which it is expedient to lay before this House, presented to the House the Report of the said Committee ; which was read, as followeth :—

Your Committee have examined the papers referred to them, and recommend the publication of all the documents sent down with the exception of one despatch from the Honorable *William McDougall* to the Secretary of State for the Province, dated 14th January, 1870, with enclosure accompanying the same, and of portions of certain other papers that might have a tendency to compromise private individuals.

Mr. *MacFarlane*, from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders, presented to the House the First Report of the said Committee, which was read, as followeth :—

Your Committee have examined the Notices given on the following Petitions, and find them sufficient, viz. :—Of Messrs. *George Baptist* and others, for incorporation of the *Quebec* and *Ottawa* Lumber Forwarding Company,—Of the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Gore Bank, for an Act to confirm an agreement made between the said Banks for amalgamation,—and of the Honorable *John Young*, for an Act to revive and amend the Act of 12 *Vict.*, incorporating a Company for the construction of a Ship Canal to connect the waters of *Lake Champlain* with the River *St. Lawrence*.

Your Committee beg leave to recommend that their Quorum be reduced to seven Members.

*Ordered*, That the Quorum of the said Committee be reduced to seven Members.