

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3:15 p.m.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented:—

Mr. OLIVER—From the Township Council of West Oxford, and from Elias Cork and others, of West Oxford, praying for a certain survey.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

Mr. RYKEMA presented the first report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

ARBITRATION AWARD.

The SPEAKER read a message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, submitting the award of the arbitrators.

ANNUAL REPORTS.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON presented the annual report for 1869 of the Inspectors of Prisons and Asylums.

Hon. Mr. WOOD submitted the receipts and expenditures of the Province of Ontario for ten months of the present year.

Hon. Mr. RICHARDS presented the report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands for 1869.

Hon. Mr. WOOD moved that the public accounts for the half year ending 31st December, 1867, and for the year ending 31st December 1868 and 1869, and the receipts and expenditures for the ten months of the current year, be referred to the Standing Committee on Accounts. Carried.

Hon. Mr. WOOD moved that the House, on Tuesday next, take into consideration His Excellency's speech at the opening of the session. Carried.

Mr. TROW introduced a Bill to amend chap. 23th of the 31st of Victoria, to allow certain privileges to Agricultural Societies in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. CARNEGIE introduced a Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Peterboro' and Haliburton Railroad Company.

Hon. Mr. CARLING introduced a Bill to confirm the deed of distribution and settlement of the estate of the Hon. George Jarvis, deceased.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD moved that an humble address be presented to his Excellency, the Governor-General, congratulating his Excellency on his elevation to the peerage of Great Britain and Ireland. The Attorney-General said that it was a matter of great satisfaction to the people of this country that the Governor-General had been elevated to the peerage; and the services he had rendered to the country would justify the congratulations of the House.

Mr. BLAKE said he could only say he heartily responded to the sentiments just expressed. The course of the Governor-General as a constitutional Governor had given satisfaction to all parties; and it was satisfactory to know that his Excellency himself attributed his elevation to the peerage to his services in this country.

The motion was carried.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD moved that he, Mr. Blake, Hon. Mr. Carling and Mr. McKellar be named a committee to prepare an address.

The committee submitted an engrossed address which was passed by the House.

Mr. BLAKE moved that this House, will resolve itself a Committee of the Whole House, to consider the following resolutions:—1. That this House concurs in the views expressed on the report of the Select Committee on the Land Improvement Fund, made to this House at its last session. 2. That the dealings of Governments with settlers should be characterized by the utmost good faith. 3. That it would not be in good faith for any Government to alter the arrangements under which the Land Improvement Fund was constituted, and to receive the purchase moneys of the lands, without providing for the due application, in accordance with such arrangements, of the proper proportions of the proceeds of all sales made during the continuance of the Fund.