

THURSDAY, Feb. 2, 1871.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.15 p.m.

#### PETITIONS.

Mr. Ferguson—From the county council of York, praying that the proposed Bill to extend the townships of Albion and King, may pass.

Mr. Ferrier—From the county council of Wellington, praying for certain amendments to the Jury law.

Mr. Oliver—From the county council of Oxford, to the same effect.

Mr. Perry—From the county council of Oxford, praying for certain amendments to the municipal law.

#### ROUTINE.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD presented the thirteenth report of the Private Bill Committee, and also the fifteenth report of the Railway Committee.

#### DRAINAGE ACT.

Hon. Mr. CARLING introduced a Bill to amend the Ontario Drainage Act.

#### AGRICULTURAL AND ARTS ACT.

Hon. Mr. CARLING introduced a Bill to amend the Agricultural and Arts Act.

#### INDIAN LANDS.

Mr. SCOTT (Grey) inquired whether the Government purpose taking any steps, in conjunction with the Dominion Government, with the view to acquire control over the Indian lands in this province, so as to bring the same under the rules and regulations of the Crown Lands Department, thereby securing to the settler on such Indian lands equal benefits with those enjoyed by settlers on Crown lands.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said that no communication whatever had been held with the Dominion Government on this subject.

#### THE BOUNDARY LINE

Mr. SCOTT (Grey) also enquired if the Government had taken, or intended to take, any steps for defining the boundary line between the Provinces of Manitoba and Ontario.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said that an appropriation was placed in the estimates for this purpose.

#### THE MURDER OF THOMAS SCOTT.

Mr. BLAKE then rose to move the following resolutions:—

1. That the cold-blooded murder for his out-spoken loyalty to the Queen of Thomas Scott, lately a resident of this Province, and an emigrant thence to the North-West, has impressed this House with a deep feeling of sorrow and indignation, and in the opinion of this House every effort should be made to bring to trial the perpetrators of this great crime, who, as yet, go unwhipt of justice.

2 That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, embodying the foregoing resolution, and praying him to take such steps as may be best calculated to further its views.

Mr. COYNE suggested that the debate on these resolutions should be fixed for six o'clock.

Mr. BLAKE said if there was any debate on the motion, it would probably not be over by six o'clock. He had given notice of his intention to proceed with these resolutions yesterday afternoon, in order that no member of the House should be taken by surprise.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said the debate had better go on.

This being the sense of the House,

Mr. BLAKE said:—Sir, when we first met here, in the speech which His Excellency's advisers put into his mouth, we were called on to remember that "while your immediate functions are limited to matters of local concern, you form the most prominent and populous portion of a new born Dominion, which I venture to hope will ere long extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and be the home of a vast multitude of thriving and contented subjects of the British Crown." To that aspiration we cordially and unanimously assented, in our answer to the speech on that occasion. Since that time some years have elapsed, and many events have taken place. Some steps, also, have been taken towards the realization of the aspirations contained in the speech—a very large step indeed in the annexation of the great North-West. But we have not found any recurrence to the topic in any of the subsequent speeches that the Lieutenant-Governor has addressed to us. We have not, on those occasions, heard any allusion to the realization of the aspirations to which I have alluded; and it appears to me that