THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 174.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 29TH MAY, 1902.

- 1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Committee of Elections and Qualifications—Report from.—Sir Edward Braddon, Chairman, brought up the Report from the Committee of Elections and Qualifications upon the Petition of James Crooke Whitelaw against the return of William Hartnoll as a Member for the State of Tasmania.

The Report was read by the Clerk, and is as follows:-

REPORT.

The Committee of Elections and Qualifications have the honour to report as follows on the Petition of James Crooke Whitelaw against the return of William Hartnoll as a Member for the State of Tasmania:—

Your Committee find that there has been an informality in the nomination of Mr. Hartnoll, inasmuch as his consent to the nomination was given by telegram instead of being written at the foot of the nomination paper as required by section 89 of the *Electoral Act* 1896 of Tasmania, the written consent by letter not reaching the Returning Officer until the day after the nomination.

Your Committee however do not consider the informality a sufficient reason for disturbing the election.

E. BRADDON,

Chairman.

House of Representatives, Committee Room, 29th May, 1902.

Ordered to be printed, together with the Proceedings of the Committee and Minutes of Evidence, and that the consideration of the Report be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

3. Papers.—The following Papers were laid upon the Table by the Clerk:—

Factories Legislation—Correspondence respecting.—Return to an Order of the House . dated 28th May, 1902.

Commonwealth Officers not transferred from State Service—Supplementary Return to an Order of the House dated 24th July, 1901 (Additional to Paper C 10, laid upon the Table on 25th September, 1901).

4. Supply.—The Order of the Day for going into the Committee of Supply having been read—Question proposed, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Chanter reported that the Committee had made progress, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved-That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

29th May, 1902.

- 5. Leave of Absence to Members (Mr. Barton, Sir John Forrest, and Messrs. Chapman, CRUICKSHANK, AND HARPER).-Mr. Deakin moved, by leave-
 - (1) That leave of absence for the remainder of the Session be granted to the Right Honorable the Prime Minister (Mr. Barton), and the Right Honorable the Minister of Defence (Sir John Forrest), on the ground of urgent public business.
 - (2) That leave of absence for the remainder of the Session be granted to the honorable Member for Eden-Monaro (Mr. Chapman), and the honorable Member for Gwydir (Mr. Cruickshank), on the ground of urgent private business, and that leave of absence for one month be granted to the honorable Member for Mernda (Mr. Harper), on account of ill-health.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

6. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at ten minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow, at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—The Prime Minister (the Right Honorable Edmund Barton, P.C.), the Minister of Defence (the Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G.), Messrs. Cameron, Chapman, Winter Cooke, Cruickshank, G. B. Edwards, Fisher, A. C. Groom, Harper, Hughes, Knox, McColl, Sir Malcolm McEacharn, Mr. Paterson, the Right Honorable G. H. Reid, P.C., Messrs. Sawers, E. Solomon, Thomas, Watkins, and Wilks.

> C. GAVAN DUFFY, Clerk of the House of Representatives.