

laid on the people for those various offices.

MR. KIRKPATRICK said that he had no objection to that amendment.

Motion, as amended, *agreed to*, as follows:—

Resolved, That an Order of the House do issue to the proper officer, for a return shewing the names and former residences of all persons who have been appointed or promoted to office, or whose salaries have been raised since the 10th Oct., 1878; shewing the office to which each such person has been appointed, the date of such appointment, and whether in the Civil Service or otherwise, or elsewhere, or in any other position in the Public Service, and whether the appointment has been permanent or temporary; also for a similar return showing the names of all persons appointed, or promoted to any office under the Government of Canada, and the salary or emolument of such office between the 17th day of September, and the 11th day of October, 1878; and specifying whether any and what increased pay or emolument was given to the person or persons so appointed or promoted.

DISMISSAL OF OFFICIALS OF THE HOUSE.

MOTION FOR PAPERS.

MR. ANGLIN moved that the Clerk do lay on the table of the House copies of all correspondence between the Clerk and the late Speaker of this House respecting appointments to vacancies in the service of the House of Commons since the last Session of Parliament, and copies of any reports respecting such appointments made by any officer of the Department. He said he had felt it his duty to bring the matter involved in this resolution under the consideration of the House of Commons at the earliest possible moment, because he believed that it affected very materially indeed the rights of this Parliament, and its dignity. The Speaker of the House of Commons was elected by this House in theory at all events, if not in fact. He was elected to serve as their Speaker, to perform certain functions, and exercise certain authority in their behalf. He was elected under the present state of things, not merely for the duration of the Parliament over which he presided, but also to act as Speaker during the interim period between the dissolution of one Parliament and the assembling of another, and

the election of another Speaker, so that at no time should the Departments of the House of Commons, or the country, be without a Speaker, unless in case of his death or absence from the country. There might be some doubt as to what the precise authority of the Speaker was during the interim. He (Mr. Anglin) had looked carefully into this question before acting as he had done with regard to the appointments. He felt satisfied then, as now, that it was the right of the Speaker, and, under the circumstances, his duty as Speaker, to make those appointments. He would, at the very outset of this matter, disclaim any intention of making party capital thereby. He did not think there was any question of party involved in it. But he did think the House itself ought to take such measures as it might think necessary to vindicate its own rights and maintain its own dignity. He thought, at all events, that even those who differed from him would be satisfied that something should be done to settle this question in a proper manner, so that hereafter there might be no room to doubt what were the rights and duties of the Speaker in this respect. It would be natural to bring forward English precedents in matters of this kind; but he had found it impossible to discover any, for the reason that, so long ago as the 39th and 40th Geo. III, a Statute was passed regulating the mode of appointments in the British House of Commons, in a manner entirely different from that we had followed. Probably some sections of that Statute embodied the practice of the House for many years previous, at all events; while the higher officers of the House were, as with us, appointed by the Crown, the subordinate officers were appointed, in one section, by the Clerk of the House, and in another, by the Sergeant-at-Arms. Under that Act was created, he believed for the first time, a Commission the powers of which were very clearly defined. In England, the authority of the Commissioners was much more clearly defined than in our Act. They were clothed with more extensive powers than the Canadian Commissioners, for, while the Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms made appointments, the Commissioners determined the salary in every case. There was no provision similar to that in the Canadian Act regu-