

"by the Governor General, who, in proroguing the House had acted upon advice from persons not at all qualified to give it.

"The meeting then adjourned till 7 o'clock.

"In the evening a very large and most enthusiastic meeting of Members and others was held in the Railway Committee Room, under the presidency of Mr. Mackenzie. The room was crowded to its utmost capacity, and the feeling manifested was that of the deepest indignation against the Ministry, who had trampled on the Constitutional rights of the people. The Governor-General was also spoken of as having overstretched the Royal prerogative, which, instead of being exercised to shield the Ministry from enquiry, should have been used to hasten and second the proper conduct of an enquiry.

"It was moved by Mr. Cauchon, seconded by Mr. Mills, and resolved:

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the prorogation of Parliament without giving the House of Commons the opportunity of prosecuting the enquiry which it had undertaken, is a gross violation of the privileges and independence of Parliament, and of the rights of the people.

"Moved by Dr. Forbes, seconded by Mr. Cartwright, and

"Resolved—'That, in the opinion of this meeting, the House of Commons is the proper body to institute and prosecute an enquiry into the pending charges against Ministers; and that the action of the accused Ministers, in removing the enquiry from the Commons, and appointing a Commission under their own control to try themselves, is a gross violation of the rights, privileges and independence of Parliament; and it will be the imperative duty of the House of Commons, at the earliest moment at which it is allowed to meet, to take action for the vindication of their rights; and for the resumption of a Parliamentary enquiry.'

"Eloquent and stirring addresses were delivered by Messrs. Cauchon, Mills, Forbes, Cartwright, Hon. A. J. Smith, Isaac Burpee, McDonald (Inverness), Cunningham, Coffin, Goudge (Hants), Fiset, Senators Leclerc de St. Just, Christie, Rymal, Hon. John Young, Jetté, Anglin, and Mackenzie.

"The meeting broke up about 10.30 p.m.

"Although many gentlemen who had previously been identified with the Government were present, not one of them expressed dissatisfaction with the proceedings, or in any way indicated their dissent. Each Member proposed to bring the matter before his constituents at the earliest possible moment, and there is little doubt that there will be a tremendous agitation throughout the length and breadth of Canada."