

April 29, 1872

under the circumstance would be the weakest possible position. If the member for Lanark North could talk on such an agitating subject, why should not he (Mr. Mills) advocate a constitutional change which he believed would be of great benefit to the country? He withdrew his resolution.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** referred to his statement respecting the Government having outraged the Constitution, and he now desired to state his reason for that remark, about which the Minister of Justice (Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald), not now in the House, had taken him to task. He stated that two sessions ago the Government had appointed Mr. McLennan to the Senate, so that he might retain a salary of \$3,000 as Intercolonial Railway Commissioner, and that the Constitution was outraged and the privileges of the Senate violated by the appointment. It was with great pain that the occurrences of the last few years had compelled him to modify his opinions. He referred to the speech of the hon. Mr. Dunkin at Quebec, pointing to some other mode of appointments to the Senate than that now in force and stated that he still believed the two Houses should be constituted differently and only modified that opinion because Government had not properly carried the theory into practice. He maintained that so far from the people being altogether in favour of the nominative principle, he had found, in the course of his numerous meetings at the time of Confederation that they were very generally opposed to it.

**Hon. Mr. CHAUVEAU** referred to the statement of the member

for Lanark North (Hon. Mr. McDougall) and denied that there had been any outrage in a simple appointment to the Senate.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** said that it was never intended that the Senate should be for placemen.

**Hon. Mr. CHAUVEAU** said there was no law to prevent the appointment of place holders to the Senate. Referring to the elective and nominative principles he said it was generally agreed at the Convention that the rights of the people would be best protected by having the Upper Chamber nominated. He did not think the hon. member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had made out any ground for the grave charge he had brought against the Government.

The motion was then withdrawn.

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#### COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

**Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS** then moved the House into Committee of Supply and several unopposed resolutions were passed.

The House adjourned at 11.40 p.m.