

the procedure which he suggests—that this correspondence should be brought down so as to form part of the debate on the Address. It is quite possible that the correspondence which took place between the hon. gentleman and His Excellency at the time he mentions may be made the subject of a debate; but if it is to be debated at all, my impression is, in the constitutional view as well as in point of propriety, that it would be better that this correspondence should be the subject of a debate by itself, and should not be mixed up with the matter of the Address. For my part, I think the only constitutional method is to debate on the Address the issues raised in the Speech from the Throne. As to the explanations resulting from any change of government, I am not aware that any explanations are due from the fact that a new government has been formed, consequent upon an appeal to the people and the result of a general election. If, however, the hon. gentleman is of opinion that he has any point of debate to raise on that subject, I think it can be raised and debated later on. If my memory serves me, and I appeal also to the hon. gentleman's memory, no such change of government or administration has ever been made the subject of discussion in the debate on the Address, but has always been the subject of debate by itself; and on the whole, I think we had better adhere to the plan I have suggested. The papers will be laid on the Table as soon as the Address is adopted; and if there be any controversial matter in them, I shall be happy to give the hon. gentleman every opportunity for debate.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I can only say, in reply to the hon. gentleman, that if there were any grave constitutional reasons why the course I have suggested should not be pursued, I would be quite prepared to bow to them; but at the same time I may say that the Speech from the Throne raises questions which materially affect the very point at issue. The resignation of the late Government and the correspondence attending that resignation, with His Excellency the Governor General, have a direct and most important bearing on the Speech which His Excellency has delivered. Under those circumstances, I hope that my hon. friend, if he will allow me to call him so—

The PRIME MINISTER. Certainly.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I hope that my hon. friend will carefully reconsider that question, with the view, if possible, of meeting what I think will greatly facilitate the progress of the work of the session, and dispose, in the debate on the Address, of questions that are very important and are incidental to the Speech from the Throne. I will not, at this moment, press the hon. leader of the Government further than to ask him to give that his most careful considera-

Mr. LAURIER.

tion, because I feel that the House will be placed at a very great disadvantage if we have not that correspondence laid on the Table and in the hands of hon. members on both sides when considering the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Is this, Mr. Speaker, on a motion to adjourn?

Mr. SPEAKER. The motion to adjourn is before the Chair.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. On the motion to adjourn—

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. gentleman has spoken.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Of course I am in the hands of the House, and no doubt the courtesy I am asking will be readily extended. I would like to ask the hon. leader of the House if his attention has been called to the fact that under the Audit Act it is necessary, I believe, to lay upon the Table of the House copies of all special warrants which have been granted by the Governor General, and that this is the last day upon which the Government or the Auditor General is required to have them laid on the Table. If the hon. gentleman's attention has not been called to that point, I hope that on Monday he will be good enough to lay on the Table copies of all the special warrants and the expenditure thereunder as required by the Act.

The PRIME MINISTER. My impression is, at this moment, that the delay is four days. At all events, it does not matter, and they will be laid on the Table on Monday.

Mr. SPEAKER. The motion before the Chair is that the House do now adjourn.

RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND UNITED STATES.

Mr. HAGGART. Before the House adjourns, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. the leader of the Government to an alleged interview with him which is reported in the "Globe." I shall read the report, and if necessary follow it with a written motion. It is from the correspondent of a Chicago paper called the "Record." The "Record" correspondent says:

When I told Mr. Laurier that the victory of the Liberal party in Canada and his appointment as Premier were considered good cause for congratulation in the United States, as they offered hope for more friendly relations between the two countries, he smiled and said: "I appreciate the kindly feeling of your people most sincerely, and I am sure their confidence has not been misplaced. The Liberal Government, which has just taken office, desires and intends to signalize its administration by a renewal of neighbourly relations with our friends across the border. As you have suggested, the relations between Canada and the United States have not been as cordial for some time past as I hope they will in the future. Providence has placed us in the position of neighbours, and we should strive to live side by side on terms of mutual friendship and respect.

"Some years ago, when considerable friction