

STATEMENTS BY LAURIER AND EMMERSON.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier read these letters with no comment except what was contained in three introductory sentences, in which he said that Mr. Emmerson had for some time "been subjected to insinuations and rumours of a most injurious character—rumours and insinuations hitherto impalpable and intangible, but which had at last taken the form of a very injurious newspaper article." He added that Mr. Emmerson denied the truth of the allegations in that article and "in order to better vindicate his character has tendered his resignation and it has been accepted."

Then followed a statement in the House by Mr. Emmerson himself, which was somewhat rambling, but began with a written announcement as follows:

"I desire at this time to repeat my denial, explicitly and unqualifiedly, of the charge which has been made against me by the *Fredericton Gleaner*, and to say that I have taken steps to secure vindication before the only tribunal having jurisdiction in the premises—the established courts of the land. To this end I have given instructions for the issue of writs for libel against the *Fredericton Gleaner*, the *Halifax Herald* and the *Toronto World*, and I have been advised of service in at least one of these cases. It is but a question of hours in the other two cases, if, indeed, at this moment service has not taken place."

Mr. Emmerson went on to express his relief that the matter had reached a point where he could meet his traducers face to face. He declared again that the statements were altogether false and asked for suspension of judgment awaiting the day when he could meet face to face those who had been striking him under the belt and stabbing him in the dark. He expressed confident assurance that he would vindicate his character.

MR. EMMERSON MAKES INSINUATIONS.

In the course of his remarks Mr. Emmerson made some significant reflections on the character of other Members. He declared that if the political warfare was to be carried on "with weapons from the gutter of slander and personal gossip," that those on the Government side would not alone suffer in that warfare. He asserted that there was "evidence that has not been purchased, evidence that would be strong, powerful, cogent," adding that "if the great public press of Canada and the people of Canada want that evidence, it is within their grasp; it is within the grasp of this House, it is within the grasp of the Country." Mr. Emmerson proceeded to say that he would remain a member of the House and would be there to say his say and challenge the bona fides of his accusers.

ONCE MORE MR. BORDEN DEMANDS PARTICULARS.

When these words appeared in the *Hansard* the next day the Opposition Leader once more showed his regard for the honour of Parliament and his determination to do his part toward the investigation of any charges