

placed himself under such obligations and assumed such relations to the Government has, *ipso facto*, ceased to be a representative; that he, *ipso facto*, became the mere bond-slave of the Government of the day. It is not my intention to dwell further on the language used by the hon. gentleman with respect to members of the Government. That language has been formally repudiated by at least one of them; nor do I myself attach any weight to the statements made by the hon. member. I repeat, it is for the Ministers to take what action and what notice they see fit with respect to that matter. For the same reason, I am not now going to enlarge on the contradictions between the statement of the hon. gentleman and the statements made by Messrs. Macdonald and Tupper of Winnipeg. They contradict each other in terms: the House and the country can judge which is the better entitled to credence. Nor do I intend to dwell on the affidavit of Mr. Sands, in which he imputes serious charges to the hon. gentleman. These appear to me to be private matters, and I am not concerned with them. I take my stand in this matter wholly and solely on the admissions made by the hon. gentleman over his own hand, on the agreement and on the receipt signed by the hon. gentleman with his own hand, and I say that, under these circumstances, our clear duty as members of this House is to punish the offender, or to admit that we are accomplices either before or after the fact. This is not a question of precedent, it is a question of principle in the highest degree. I believe that no precedent can be found for such a transaction as that of which I am now speaking being brought before Parliament, because I cannot conceive that in any other country having representative institutions, when such facts had been published throughout the community as have been published with respect to the hon. member for Lincoln (Mr. Rykert), the offender would have invited the judgment of his peers. I believe that in any other country public opinion would have at once compelled the offender to retire from Parliament and anticipate the judgment that might be pronounced on him. I say to hon. gentlemen opposite that, on the lowest grounds of self-interest, they should sustain my motion; I say it is to the interest of the whole party that they should sustain my motion. If they fail to do so, with the knowledge of these facts, the offence of the hon. member for Lincoln to a great extent becomes theirs, and by their action they will do more than I or any one else can do to confirm every charge ever preferred against him; and more than that, they will cause honorable men everywhere, in speaking of Canada, to assert that, by their own act, the majority of the House of Commons have declared that Canadians are highly corrupt, and that the House of Commons is, at best, but a place for division of the spoils. And now it may be asked, why, if I entertain these opinions, why, if I believe the hon. gentleman's conduct is such as I have stated, I have contented myself with moving the comparatively mild motion of censure with which this motion closes? I make no disguise whatever of the fact, that, in my judgment, the hon. gentleman's conduct well merits expulsion, but I am well aware that if I moved for expulsion, in all human probability I would open the door wide to endless wrangling; and I am aware that

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the legal gentlemen on this side of the House and legal gentlemen on the other side would have proceeded to bury all the facts beneath a mountain of precedents from which it would have been very difficult for the community at large to extract the true facts. I have done violence, I must say, to my feelings in contenting myself with the very moderate motion I am about to place in your hands. Now, the facts admit of no sort of denial. You have the bargain with Mr. Adams admitted and placed on record. You have the payment by Mr. Adams likewise admitted and made on record. You have the use of influence by the hon. member for Lincoln (Mr. Rykert) admitted and boasted of. You have further on record the denial, in his place, by the hon. gentleman of the facts which are clearly proved out of his own mouth and established by his own correspondence and his signed agreement. Is there, or can there be anything more at variance with the duty of a member of Parliament? How, I should like to know, could the hon. member for Lincoln rise and pretend that, after such transactions as he is shown to have engaged in, he any longer in a position to oppose any act of the Government of the day? How could the hon. member for Lincoln, no matter how clear and convincing the evidence might be, rise in his place and oppose any act of the Government to which he owes his fortunes? How could he pretend to have free power to use his own judgment, or pretend that it was in his power any longer to perform any useful function as representative or trustee of the people? Sir, the point in this whole matter, to which the attention of the people has got to be principally drawn, is this. As I said at the commencement, I do not know by any means that the hon. gentleman is the only offender. The hon. gentleman, I fear, is but a type and a specimen; I fear there are many such in the House. I fear there are many constituencies which are perfectly willing to return members as guilty as the hon. member for Lincoln (Mr. Rykert), provided only that the member is skilful enough to obtain some advantage for them from the Treasury of the Dominion, or, possibly, provided the hon. gentleman is willing to share his plunder freely among them when election time comes round. But although I do not deem that the hon. gentleman is much worse than some other hon. gentlemen, although I hold he has been a little bolder and more successful, and possibly a trifle more unscrupulous than some others would have been, although I must say I do not consider that in one sense it is quite fair to single him out as a scapegoat, yet, in the interests of the whole community, we must do so, if we would try to arrive at some understanding of the principles on which this Government is to be carried on. In the hon. gentleman's case that is still more important, because we are justified in pointing out to the community that of such, as the hon. member for Lincoln (Mr. Rykert), are the men whom this Government delight to honor. With knowledge of the material facts, though not of all the facts, the Government sitting opposite to me have thrice selected the hon. member for Lincoln as chairman of one of our most important Committees. Twice further, it is well known to this House, the Government intended to bring forward that hon. gentleman's name for a position of dignity in this House, second only to your own, Mr. Speaker,