

part in political journalism and in oral contests. This right, of necessity, implies the right to oppose the Ministry, as it categorically implies the right to support it.

This right gives to the staff of our office an independent character, to which, I am convinced, those friends of the Government whom I have the pleasure of reckoning as my colleagues, cling as firmly as I do. They are too solicitous respecting their own dignity to desire to contradict me on this, the sole point on which we are all in accord.

That in the heat of the battle some expressions, exceeding the limits of moderation, should escape our lips is quite possible; nay, it is even quite probable; but I can conscientiously declare that the thing never happened to me. I am convinced that the imperfect knowledge of French possessed by Mr. Ives is the cause of the error which he has committed, involuntarily no doubt, to my injury. Besides, Mr. Ives is to-day a member of the House of Commons; he was not such during the last electoral contest; and I very respectfully submit that he cannot in strict justice take advantage of his privileges, which he certainly did not possess at the time of the commission of the supposed offence.

If I understand rightly, my whole personality is distasteful to the hon. member for Richmond and Wolfe. I deplore the fact more than anyone else, and I feel that I have grounds for saying so; but do you not think, Mr. Speaker, that this lack of a winning appearance on my part would be somewhat too severely punished if I were thrust out on the world with a wife and family whose existence depends upon my labors?

You have now, Mr. Speaker, in the face of an affirmation of a member of the honorable body over whose debates you preside with every sense of justice and all fitting dignity, the explicit, peremptory and absolute denial of an employé of this House. The disadvantage of my position does not escape your notice nor does it escape mine. I have, then, the greatest need of all the protection that it is in your power to grant. I reckon upon it with confidence, fully persuaded that you will prevent a summary decision being adopted in my case without giving me the opportunity of defending myself at a fitting time and place.

Accept, Mr. Speaker, the assurance of the profound respect with which I have the honor to be,

Your very humble servant,

RÉMI TREMBLAY.

(*Translation.*)

OTTAWA, 4th June, 1887.

MR. SPEAKER,—I acknowledge respectfully the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date in which you transmit to me a letter addressed to you by the Honorable Mr. Chapleau, Secretary of State, dated the 22nd of May, last.

The day before yesterday I had the honor to send to you some explanations relative to the accusations brought against me by Mr. W. B. Ives, member of Parliament for Richmond and Wolfe. Let me be permitted to repeat here that in taking an active part in the last elections and in expressing my opinion in the press I only exercised a right which has never been denied to the translators of the Debates, but which, on the contrary, has been solemnly recognized, both in the committee to which we are responsible and in the House, since the fact of our being journalists was made the ground of opposing the augmentation of our salaries. The Hon. Mr. Chapleau himself at the sitting of the 2nd April, 1884 (see page 1353 French version, of the Debates) expressed himself as follows: "we have not to concern ourselves about the political opinions of the reporters and translators of the Debates." Mr. Bergin expresed himself to the same effect.

When I was not only appointed French translator of the Debates, but, moreover was specially charged with the translation into English of all the speeches delivered in French, I was not required to give up journalism. It was known that I had the