

to whether he was entitled to be styled "His Excellency" while discharging these important functions of Administrator, and a cablegram was sent to London asking if the Administrator of the Government of Canada was entitled to be styled "His Excellency." As every despatch from the Colonial Secretary in London is simply addressed to the Administrator of the Government the reply, of course, was that the Administrator of the Government of Canada was entitled to be styled "His Excellency". This would mean His Excellency the Governor General. Technically the Judge had won out and so he seemed like Alexander to have sighed for more worlds to conquer. When, therefore, he was requested by the Prime Minister, in the absence of the Governor General, to appear in the Senate Chamber in his capacity as Deputy Governor to assent to some bills that had been passed, he refused to enter the Chamber of the Senate and sit in the Speaker's chair where all the Deputy Governors preceding him had sat, and he insisted that unless the Speaker's chair was removed so that he could enter the dais and sit on the Throne he would not play the game, but would return to his carriage and be driven off in state. The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod approached "His Excellency" in a deferential way and all the officials were agog with excitement and even the pages on the floor of the House crept out to see the great man and learn with becoming awe and reverence what a real live deputy governor was. Finally His Honor the Speaker of the Senate was conjured to give a decision authorizing the removal of his own chair to allow the deputy of the representative of royalty to occupy the Throne and so in such manner a few measly bills received the Royal assent.

This surrender of the Royal prerogative (by the way the Governor-General was on a fishing trip up the Gatineau) roused the ire of the Senators and at the first convenient opportunity an attempt was made to show that the demand for admission to the Throne was an innovation without precedent and without authority, and that, anyway, the Governor-General had no

power to depute his powers granted by the King to give the royal assent to measures passed by the parliament. The majority of the Senate appeared to agree with this view, and, finally, the government leader rose and said that he would bring the matter to the attention of the proper authority and that it would not occur again. Whereupon His Excellency, the Right Honorable Sir Elzear Taschereau, Knight, and Chief Justice, and Deputy-Governor, and Administrator, caused it to be announced in the press that he had received permission from His Excellency the Governor General to retire from the job. The officials connected with the government are said to be indulging in a unseemly degree of joy at the announcement.

Since the above was written a further development in this peculiar case has enlarged the sphere of the complication. On Monday night the Governor General himself was heard from. A telegram was addressed to the President of the Parliamentary Press Gallery at Ottawa, reading as follows:—

"Kindly ask press to circulate absolute denial of the rumor that Chief Justice Taschereau has asked His Excellency to be relieved of the duty of acting as Administrator or as Deputy Governor. There is no truth in the report and no foundation for the statement to this effect.

COL. HANBURY-WILLIAMS,

Secy. to the Governor General.

This is an absolute denial of the "rumor". It is the habit of some of our public men to say, "Oh, it is only a newspaper rumor", but the correspondents at Ottawa are as a rule careful of what they send out, and when they announced to the people of Canada that the Right Honorable Sir Elzear Taschereau, Kt. had obtained the consent of the Governor General to his retirement from the duty of acting as Administrator or as Deputy Governor, there must have been a basis for this statement. It may as well be stated that the typewritten document published in the press announcing the retirement of the Chief Justice from the position of understudy to the Governor General was contained in an envelope addressed in the handwriting of his Lordship the Right Honorable Sir Elzear Taschereau, P. C. K. T.