

same," which resolution was lost. That on the 8th of April last, the Right Hon. Sir J. A. Macdonald, "also a member of the said House of Commons, *in his place in Parliament,*" moved that a Select Committee of five members be appointed by the House" to enquire into and report upon the several matters contained in Mr. Huntington's statement in Parliament; which resolution was carried. It then refers to the Oaths Bill passed on the 3rd May; and further recites that on the said day the Hon. J. H. Cameron, "also a member of the said House of Commons, *in his place in Parliament,*" moved "that the said Select Committee should examine witnesses on oath." Then referring to the disallowance of the Oaths Bill, "whereby *one of the objects* desired by the said House of Commons cannot be attained," it makes a further recital that full enquiry should be made on oath, and declares "that the *Governor in Council* has deemed it expedient such enquiry should be made." It then confides the enquiry on Mr. Huntington's Parliamentary statement to the Commissioners to report the evidence, with any opinions they may think fit to express. No reason for taking the enquiry out of the jurisdiction of the House of Commons, appears on the face of the instrument, save that *one of the objects* desired by the House of Commons could not be attained.

It is needless to recount the frequent collisions between the Crown and Parliament on the immunity claimed by the latter for anything done or said in the House. The many precedents collected by writers on Parliamentary law, will show how essential to a free legislature the House of Commons have held this privilege. About the earliest acknowledgment of their right occurred on the accession of Henry IV. One Haxey, a member, had been called to account by the