

ferred to an extract in another newspaper, in which Mr. Blair is reported to have said he might have got a seat in the other House if he was willing to pay enough for it. I daresay one might say that with truth. In any large body it is quite possible that there is someone that money or some thing would tempt, but Mr. Blair's saying what is stated if he did say it, does not amount to much. He made no offer—it is not pretended that he made any offer, or ever intended to make any offer, of a pecuniary kind or of any other kind in order to get a seat. It does not do, as my hon. friend knows very well, to critically examine every word that a public speaker is reported to have used on any particular occasion. It would embarrass us very much if we were to attempt to draw logical conclusions from such reports, as if every word were properly reported and carefully considered. Mr. Blair has been too long in public life, and is too well known in public life, for the House to doubt that there is any action of his that is not strictly honourable and that would not bear the closest investigation.

Hon. Mr. BECHARD—I am perhaps justified in believing that my hon. friend opposite has referred to me in speaking of his hon. friend on this side of the House and saying that a man in my position is justified in making sacrifices to receive the position of senator. I wish to inform my hon. friend and this House that I have not made the least sacrifice to receive the position of senator. The position was offered to me without any condition whatsoever, and before accepting it I received assurances from parties whose sincerity I could not doubt, that it had been for more than a year the intention of the present First Minister, which he had communicated to them, that if he ever reached the summit of power he would offer me a position in the Senate. It was after receiving the assurance that such had been his intention for a long time, that I decided to accept the honour of a position in this House. I made no sacrifice and I would not have made any to secure that position. I told my constituents that if the position had been offered to me on condition that I should make room in the House of Commons for somebody else, I should have cried very loudly "no," and I added that although I considered the position of senator as being dignified and elevated,

I thought that an honourable man could not accept it without its being offered in an honourable manner.

THE ADDRESS.

MOTION.

Hon Mr. POWER moved :

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to offer the humble thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech which he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament ; namely :—

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir John Campbell Hamilton-Gordon, Earl of Aberdeen ; Viscount Formartine, Baron Haddo, Methlic, Tarves and Kellie, in the Peerage of Scotland ; Viscount Gordon of Aberdeen, County of Aberdeen, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom ; Baronet of Nova Scotia ; Governor General of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious Speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

He said : I can hardly plead that I am unaccustomed to public speaking, or unaccustomed to speaking in the Senate, but at the same time I feel considerably embarrassed in rising to-day. I am speaking in an unaccustomed place. I have for the last seventeen sessions been speaking on the other side of the House, and trying to find fault (not unreasonably, I hope) with the speeches made by previous governments and placed in the hands of His Excellency the Governor General. At the same time, although I have changed my place, I find that I am still in a minority. There is that difference between the change of government as it affects the Senate and as it affects the House of Commons. Although I might prefer that, as in the other chamber, my friends were in a majority here, still, as a member of this House, I feel a sort of compensating satisfaction in being able to look around me, and see the old familiar faces that I have seen in the past. I regret to see that the hon. gentleman from Monck, who was directly in front of me, has got to one side so that I cannot conveniently see him, but I notice the smiling face of the leader of the Opposition just in the same relative position that it was in last year when he sat on this side of the House. I shall take up the Speech from the Throne,