They had gone home fatigued met early in The hon. member for a place and made his Government on the 2nd hon. gentleman may have he was not, actuated by the interest in making that he was so actuated or ives were parliamentary particle or superiority, that the direct aim, the ct at which that motion were directed, was to England. (Cheers.) The with that object, not so ors of destroying the Ad- so much with the purpose upon the Ministry, as stroying that first on the his friends of power? The hon. gentleman replied: "I did not. I now declare he was prompted by his friends."

Mr. Mackenzie—The statement made by the hon. member for Picton is quite correct. I stated I had no knowledge of that statement being made, but as the hon. gentleman had said that it was made, I was bound to believe it, but I was still prepared to say that the information I had was that the leader of the Government was compelled by the pressure of his friends to make that motion. I am borne out in that by what the member for Shelburne stated the other day in the House. He for one was obliged to bring that pressure to bear the next day. (Opposition cheers.) I cannot recollect all the others, but I heard similar matters mentioned by some others.

Sir John Macdonald—I have got the speech here, and before the debate closes I will refer to it, because I do not like any misapprehension on these matters. I am sorry that the hon. gentleman did not, as he is reported, and I can state here that the hon. gentleman had his own reporter present. The hon. gentleman is reported to have said:—"I may inform the hon. gentleman there were eight of the Government supporters who put the screw on him." In other words—

Mr. Mackenzie—I am perfectly certain I did not use the word screw.

Sir John Macdonald—Now, I have occasion to repeat what I stated then, that no member of the Party, and not only no member of the Party, but not one of my own colleagues, spoke to me on the subject of my own action in regard to that motion. (Loud cheers from Ministerial benches.) The motion took us by surprise, and we then did, as I think we ought to have met it by voting it down. Next day I came down late and walked into the Council room at half-past one. My colleagues were all sitting around. I said to them, "after consideration, I have made up my mind that I will move for a Committee," before any one had spoken. I had acted my intention without a single suggestion from any man, that as the charge was of such a nature that it would move for the appointment of a Committee and bring such motion before Parliament on the following day. And that is the way that the characters of men are lied away in this country. I do not mean to say that the hon. member for Lambton has lied down my character because he had denied it. What I do mean to say, it has been lied away by the mistake of a reporter who thought that he was reporting his words. I have now got the report from the Toronto Daily Hansard, Ottawa. Perhaps the hon. gentleman knows what paper I have. Perhaps the hon. member for South Bruce says "hear, hear." Surely he ought not to touch, taste and handle the matter he has written for! Surely he will not think that any good fruit will come from a vile stalk. Surely he won't quote any evidence that he knows that if he believes the evidence of that Commission he is a rascal. (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman is on the horns of a dilemma. Either the evidence is legal or illegal. If it is legal, then the House can judge from the evidence, but if it is illegal, the House must discard it; and yet the hon. member for Lambton quoted this evidence, and every man who spoke on the opposite side of the House used that evidence; and it cannot be said, if that evidence is to be used against the Government, that it is illegal or unconstitutional. (Cheers.) You have your money, you have your pick! Either accept, or discard it and remain as you were before this evidence was taken. (Cheers.) Not in what alleged in the argument of an hon. gentleman opposite, with respect to this Commission, that the Governor-General had been snubbed! I tell the hon. gentleman, and I have the permission of the Queen to write, and to say in addition to the official announcement, there is a formal opinion given by the law officers of the Crown,—those authorized law officers whose opinion the hon. member for Bothwell looked at so lightly, and quoted but every one else so much respected—that the course taken by the Governor-General both in respect to the Commission and the issuance of the Royal Commission, was legal and constitutional.

Mr. Blake.—Hear, hear.

Sir John Macdonald—Well, Mr. Speaker, I cannot help it if the hon. gentleman does not agree with the law officers of the Crown. But I have still a further statement to make, and I think I may make it in the presence of the hon. friend from Bothwell, the Minister—that the course of the Governor-General in respect to all these transactions has been finally settled and agreed upon by the Privy Council, without whose advice no action of the Privy Council ever takes place. But, sir, whether the Commissions was legal or not, and we will suppose for a moment that it was not, though it is a great stretch of imagination to suppose that the Queen and the hon. member for Sheffford to have come together and have agreed that it was not, and have been well for the hon. member, as a man really anxious to have justice done? I tell the hon. member for Lennox, I tell the member if desirous of the triumph of his Party, not desirous of the defeat of a Minister, not desirous of a change of Government, but really, truly, anxiously, and as he said, painfully desirous of having justice done, to have come before the Commission, and have followed up the investigation from the 1st day? I think he would have found that the privileges of Parliament were not violated, and that he might safely have prosecuted the matter and have brought the offenders to justice, and that he could have taken his money under the circumstances. (Cheers.) I shall now make a few remarks in respect to the issue of the Royal Commission. I have spoken of the prorogation, believe that it was constitutional. I believe that it was wise, and whether it was wise or unwise, it was sanctioned by this Parliament, and I know that Parliament cannot, without dishonour, reverse their vote; and I believe I know that the House accepted that prorogation on the ground that the adjournment was in effect to be a prorogation, and that only the two Speakers should be in the House on the 13th of August. (Cheers.) As regards the legality of the Royal Commission, I believe that I need not speak so long on that subject. The motion of the hon. member for Lambton relieves me from that necessity. I quote the resolution of the hon. member for Lambton relieves me from that necessity. I quote the resolution of the hon. member for Bothwell, and I quote the resolution of the hon. member for Cardwell introduced a bill for the purpose of giving the Committee power to administer oaths. We passed that bill through both Houses, and it became the Crown, in the first instance, to which the Legislature. Is it to be supposed that when the advisers of the Crown, the advisers of the Governor-General, asked him to come down here contrary to usual practice, contrary to the general universal practice, to come down before the end of the session to give his counsel to a measure, is it to be supposed that when we brought him down for that special purpose, we were not charged by the Legislature to convey to him why we asked him to give his counsel? Then why, Mr. Speaker, was it to be supposed that the Governor would give as a matter of course his assent to a measure passed by this Parliament without good reason? Sir, we gave that reason. The advisers of the Crown told the Crown what the motive of the member for Shelford was. They told the Crown what the proceedings before the House were, and that the Crown approved of the Commission, and that the Government of the Dominion of Canada, and the Government of the Mother Country, and the Government of the Queen, and the Government of the Queen's Representative in Canada, and the Government of the Queen's Representative in Canada, and the Government of the Queen's Representative in Canada