

the whole story in connection with the mail carrying contract at Orangeville.

Mr. MACDONELL (Algoma). The hon. member for North Wellington (Mr. McMullen) would have very little to complain about if he knew the difficulties which I, the Government supporter in the great district of Algoma, had to contend against. During my recent election I found that I had not only to fight a whole army of Ontario Government officials, but also had to fight an army of officials appointed by the present Administration. I found some of the postmasters appointed under the present Administration were adverse to the interests of the Government, and I found that to the extent that where notices of meetings were sent out in my district to be distributed to the people, they were held back by the postmasters until after the date for the meeting had expired.

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.) That's a very common thing.

Mr. MACDONELL (Algoma). No doubt it is, but it should not be a common thing by any means if the postmasters would perform their duties, and particularly so when the postage was paid upon these notices. I found more than that. I found that a postmaster in the District of Algoma was using the mails for his own business purposes. When I brought that to the notice of the Administration, what answer do you suppose I got? It was not that the man should be dismissed summarily, although he was a political opponent of mine and of the Administration of the day. They simply said: We cannot dismiss a man for that thing; something stronger must be brought against him. It was the same with other officials in that district. Every one of them without exception, I will venture to say, did not lose an opportunity to do what they could, not for me, a supporter of the Administration, but for the Opposition. The hon. member for North Wellington has nothing to complain of. I have very much more to complain of than he has, and I feel it strongly.

Mr. McNEILL. I move, seconded by Mr. Wood, of Brockville, that the House do now adjourn. I think this would be a fair compromise.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). The hon. gentleman cannot make such a motion in the midst of a speech.

Mr. McNEILL. I would ask who was speaking?

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). The hon. gentleman had not finished his speech.

Mr. McNEILL. The hon. gentleman had resumed his seat.

Mr. MACDONELL (Algoma). I am willing that the House should lose the rest of the speech.

Mr. LAURIER. Some members rose desiring to speak on that motion.

Mr. SPEAKER. I did not see anybody rise.

Mr. DEVLIN. I have something to say.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

After Recess.

Bill (No. 77) respecting the Ontario and Rainy River Railway Company (Mr. LaRivière) was considered in Committee and reported.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell).

IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READINGS.

Bill (No. 60) respecting the Lake Erie, Essex and Detroit River Railway Company, and to change the name thereof to the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway Company.—(Mr. Denison.)

Bill (No. 86) to incorporate the Brighton, Warkworth and Norwood Railway Company.—(Mr. Cochrane.)

Bill (No. 89) to incorporate the Kingston and Pontiac Railway Company.—(Mr. Ferguson, Renfrew.)

Bill (No. 90) to amend the Act to incorporate the Cobourg, Northumberland and Pacific Railway Company.—(Mr. Cochrane.)

Bill (No. 93) to incorporate the Ontario and New York Bridge Company.—(Mr. Kirkpatrick.)

Bill (No. 94) respecting the Kingston, Smith's Falls and Ottawa Railway Company.—(Mr. Taylor.)

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. COCKBURN. Before the Orders are proceeded with, I rise to a question of privilege. I hold in my hand a copy of the *Daily Examiner*, a paper published at Charlottetown, P. E. I., dated Thursday, the 25th June, 1891, and bearing, as its motto, the following quotation from Euripides: "This is true liberty when free-born men, having to advise the public, may speak free." Following this guiding star, I find under "telegraphic news, special despatches, tunnel correspondence," these words, dated Ottawa, June 25:

"In moving for correspondence regarding the tunnel, Davies made an excellent speech from a Prince Edward Island standpoint, avoiding all party politics, stating the Island's case powerfully, and made an admirable impression. Cockburn, one of the Toronto members, who is the present buffoon of the House, and who had evidently more than he could carry, attempted, in reply, to show that the Island was indebted annually to the Dominion by \$600,000."

Further on, the zeal of the honourable reporter had carried him so far that, in speaking of the appointment of the Royal Commission, he used these words:

"A good deal of noise and personal talk was indulged in during the debate. Several members were under the weather."

Now, I am rather at a loss to know what to do under circumstances like these, but I appeal to you, Mr. Speaker, as the guardian and representative of the liberties, privileges and rights of members of this House, to say if no means can be adopted, when members who endeavour honestly to do their duty in this House are blackguarded in this way, to put a stop to it. I find the paper, or rather the sheet, is on file in the reading room, and I think any man who could send a telegram of this kind or any paper that would receive it is no longer fit to be placed on the files of our Journals. I have not the slightest doubt that my friend from Queen's (Mr. Davies) knows nothing about this matter. He is too honourable and too high-minded a gentleman to have anything to do with it directly or indirectly, though I have been given to understand that this is an organ supporting him personally, but I think it right to state, in his absence, that I am as sure as I stand here now that he had nothing whatever to