

we have just carried, and which will have to be voted down in order to carry the third reading.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—The rule which the hon. gentleman lays down is perfectly applicable whenever the motion in amendment proposes to make any change. The only objection that could have been taken to the sub-amendment, and I do not think that that could be valid, is that it only amounted to a negative. It did only amount to a negative in reality, but the difference between that and a mere negative is that it gives a reason for giving a negative.

HON. MR. BELLEROSE—There were before the Chair a minute ago three motions,—first, the motion for a third reading; second, the amendment, that the Bill be not now read the third time, but that it be referred back to the committee, &c.; third, the sub-amendment, that it is not expedient, &c. This sub-amendment was carried. Now, it is an order of the House. The House has declared that it is inexpedient, &c. Where is the authority that would put that aside? It is very well for the gentlemen in the majority to laugh at us, who are in the minority, and I believe that we have amongst us men who deserve to be laughed at; but ordinarily, when we have to deal with Englishmen, they like to see us stand up for our rights, and if we were in England I believe that we would be supported in this motion. It is because we are in a colony that we are ill-treated. England's fair play does not allow a man to be crushed down because he is weak. The sub-amendment having been carried, it becomes an amendment to the main motion for the third reading of the Bill, and supersedes a motion for the third reading. You have declared that it is inexpedient to continue the agitation. The motion is carried, and there is nothing more before the Chair. I defy hon. gentlemen to contradict that. The main motion is defeated by the amendment which is carried. There is no third reading possible now.

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

#### After Recess.

THE SPEAKER—As I think it is extremely desirable that the proceedings of the House should be kept perfectly regular,

and that there should be no mistake made which might possibly be drawn into a precedent afterwards, I have, since the adjournment of the House, looked carefully into the question in relation to the amendments before the House when six o'clock was called, and also consulted one of the highest authorities on parliamentary procedure, and I would beg respectfully to suggest what I think is the proper course for the House to take: In the first place, before six o'clock, the hon. member from Delanau dière moved, in amendment to the motion of the hon. leader of the House that the Bill be now read a third time, that the Bill be not now read the third time, but that it be referred back to a Committee of the Whole House to strike out a proviso contained in a certain clause in the Bill. In amendment to this, it was moved by the hon. member from Amherst in amendment to the amendment, that the said proviso should stand part of the Bill, and this latter amendment was carried. I now, therefore, respectfully suggest that the next motion should be that the hon. member for Delanau dière's amendment as amended by the hon. member for Amherst be adopted. If that resolution is carried, the next motion in order will be that the main motion as amended be adopted—that is, the original motion for the third reading of the Bill, but which, as amended, will dispose for the present of the third reading; but it will be perfectly within the right of the leader of the House, and according to parliamentary practice, for him to move afterwards that the Bill be placed immediately on the Orders of the Day for the third reading. I believe that the course which I have now suggested is the proper one to take, and that the next motion which should be put to the House is that the amendment as amended be adopted.

HON. MR. BELLEROSE—I have to thank the Speaker for having looked into the matter, because it confirms my contention. I am happy to think that the trouble was not caused by me, but by others.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—In my judgment, the second amendment ought to have been withdrawn, and the division taken upon the main question. Look at the position in which we place ourselves now! We are going to put on record that we took a certain course in the afternoon, and that