

against me. If the Speaker rules against me, I will ask some friend to move the adjournment of the debate. I am going to clear up these charges if it takes till midsummer. I find by another return that, during the last fiscal year, there were entered at the Custom house of this country village of Gananoque, 628 steamers and 124 sailing vessels, making a total of 752.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. I think the hon. gentleman is going very far from the question.

Mr. TAYLOR. I just intended to say that 136 vessels entered the port of Goderich in the same time, on which port, while the hon. gentleman's friends were in power, they spent half a million of money, I presume in purchasing his support, and making him the bond slave of the hon. member for East York. Now, this hon. gentleman said that he made no statement that he could not establish. I charge him with having made this statement at Wingham, that he has not and cannot establish. The speech of the Minister of the Interior is, to my mind, unanswerable, and proves conclusively how well this Government has guarded the interests of our great domain as compared with the *régime* of hon. gentlemen opposite. The hon. gentleman said that no public man should make a statement which he could not corroborate. I presume that the thirty-nine other thieves whom he arraigned with me in Wingham, have just as good a case as I have. I am not going to fight their battles, but I want to repudiate the foul slander on my own behalf. A Grit lawyer was in my town on Saturday from near this locality, and repeated the charge made against me in the speech of M. C. Cameron, and I now take this opportunity of throwing that slander back into the teeth of that hon. gentleman, and I challenge him to prove it.

Mr. CAMERON (Inverness). I desire to say a few words before the close of this debate, on the subject of scandals generally, and on this one in particular. I am not interested in any timber limits, I did not apply for any for myself, nor for anybody else, and I do not think that anybody else applied for timber limits for me. I believe that applications were made by honest persons for timber limits for themselves, and I also believe that honest people applied for timber limits for others. I do not think there is any great scandal in such a transaction. I observe that the Opposition has at last discovered a policy; they have at last conceived the idea of floating into power on scandals. I find that although I have no interest in land grants or coal areas, Grit writers in the Lower Provinces fancy that they have obtained a little scandal against me and two other gentlemen from Cape Breton. Notices of motion have been put on the paper for the purpose of giving food to our political opponents for digestion during the recess, although it is utterly impossible to reach them this Session. I find one notice placed upon the paper by the leader of the Opposition in reference to two hon. gentlemen from Cape Breton, in reference to which the *Pictou News*, a good Grit paper, on the 30th May last, says:

"The Ottawa representatives from the Island of Cape Breton appear to be distinguishing themselves at the capital. Messrs. Dodd and McDougall have been arraigned before the House charged with threatening an elector at the last election in Cape Breton county, with dismissal from the position of pilot if he voted against Mr. McDougall, and with afterwards inducing the Government to effect such dismissal."

There is no truth in the allegation that the pilot was dismissed from office; there is no truth in the allegation that he lost anything by having been placed on the new board. I find also that reference has been made to the member for Richmond (Mr. Paint), in a most scandalous manner. I find also that my own name has been used by this Grit sheet in the following language:—

"Dr. Cameron, of Inverness, has been court-martialled before the House and one of the committees, for getting bogus reports of his speeches in Parliament issued through the means of the *Hansard* reporters."

It is not enough for them to slander myself, but they had to slander the *Hansard* reporters, with a view of making a case against the Government. I find, also, that use has been made of another notice of motion given by the hon. member for Guyaboro' (Mr. Kirk).

Mr. CHARLTON. I rise to a point of order. The hon. gentleman is not referring to the question under discussion.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I ask your ruling on that point, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER. I understood the hon. gentleman to be speaking about the dismissal of some persons from the pilotage board.

Mr. CAMERON (Inverness). Yes, but I will come to the timber limits.

Mr. SPEAKER. I think the motion before the Chair is in reference to members of Parliament receiving favors from the Executive. I do not think the hon. gentleman should discuss the question of the dismissal of any member from the pilotage board.

Mr. CAMERON (Inverness). I submit with pleasure to the ruling of the Chair, and I shall therefore confine myself as closely as possible to timber limits. At this early hour in the morning I presume there are some other hon. members who desire to speak on the subject, and I will conclude by referring to an idea which I gather from a contribution to a contemporary periodical, which happily hits off the modern Grit, who imagines that the times are out of joint, and that his mission is to set them right. This has particular reference to the timber limits in the North-West and to coal areas, which were not all disposed off in the interest of the Conservative party but of which all may obtain a slice. The writer says:

"We feel thankful that the Sun and Moon
Are set so very high,
That no presuming hand can reach
To pluck them from the sky.
For were they not, there is no doubt,
That some Reforming ass,
Would soon propose to snuff them out,
And light the world with gas."

If they fail to illuminate this Dominion with scandalising gas I fail to see that any other politicians, past, present or future, can realise the attainment of the power. Yet I apprehend that our masters throughout the Dominion, the electors who have sent us here, begin to realise the fact that there is too little reality and too much gas about all this scandal which is submitted to the consideration of Parliament by the Opposition in this House.

Mr. HESSON. I will not occupy more than a short period of time, and I think I may be pardoned for doing so, as I have been frequently referred to in this connection in this debate, as well as on a former occasion, during my absence, when the hon. member for North Norfolk (Mr. Charlton) then, as now, undertook to lecture hon. members as to what their duty was to the country and to this House. The hon. gentleman did not attempt to make charges against me. I defy him to make any charge on account of which I should hang down my head or apologise either to my constituents or to the House. The hon. gentleman has been very assiduous in endeavoring, if possible, to eliminate from the voluminous returns called for by him, at an enormous cost to the country—one return covering something like 20,000 pages—such information as he hoped would damage the character of hon. members in this House. He calls himself an honorable man, probably he is; and probably he may have a right in his own judgment to use that term; but I do not think his talents are so well directed as they might be when they are directed simply to endeavoring, if possible, by hook or crook, by any method, to bring forward statements in this House and place them before the country, as being evidence