

of religion, even holding the position of president of bible societies and other kindred institutions, guilty of the most criminal acts—ruin the families of widows and orphans without heart or feeling—caring not what misery and suffering they may cause so long as they can continue to live in their mansions and drive in their carriages, and so long as the law cannot touch them, so long as a detective cannot tap them on the shoulder, because, perhaps, the books of the bank have been burnt. We all remember the history which cropped up last session of the sewage being allowed to run on the books, so that the fact could not be proved that such men of high position have not paid their debts.

HON. MR. OGILVIE—I rise to a question of order.

THE SPEAKER—Will the hon. gentlemen state the point of order?

HON. MR. OGILVIE—The hon. gentleman from Woodstock has just spoken of the Exchange Bank being wrecked, and stated that the directors were likely to have burned the books of the bank, that they have robbed widows and orphans in order that they may ride about in their carriages. I do not know whether it is parliamentary or not to characterize such a statement in strong terms—but every word of it is as false as hell. Every gentleman here knows as well as I do that the directors of that bank always had their carriages till the bank was wrecked, and that through its failure we lost them. Many of us lost the whole of our property through it. The man who wrecked the bank is a fugitive from justice in the United States. The directors of that bank are as honest as any man in this House. We were all sufferers: I think I was the worst. We were all but totally ruined. One of my confreres, Mr. Green, who was worth three-quarters of a million before the failure of the bank, is not worth a quarter of a million to-day. It is too bad for anyone who pretends to be a gentleman to stand up and utter such falsehoods before the House. When he is prepared to make such statements about us, can you believe his statements about the Government? When he attacks

the characters of private individuals, do you think he would hesitate to slander the Government? Such assertions as he been making are disgraceful to the Senate, and I know that he would not be allowed to utter such unwarranted assertions in any other deliberative body. The leader of the Government ought to be in a position to stop him, and I suppose would have done so if he were not more amused than hurt by the hon. member's utterances. When I heard the hon. member utter such gross slanders upon men who so little merited such treatment, I thought possibly there might be some here who might attach some credence to the statements. I can show a letter from the liquidators of the Exchange Bank, in which they state that after having carefully examined the books in their hands for three years, they were able to say, as the result of a close investigation, that they could not find that the directors were to blame in any respect. I hope the House will pardon me for having used strong language in characterizing the statements of the hon. member, but I felt so galled by the slander that I could bear it no longer.

THE SPEAKER—The hon. gentleman has not stated the point of order.

HON. MR. ALEXANDER—I am exceedingly sorry that my hon. friend, for whom I have the greatest respect, should suppose that any part of my remarks applied to the Exchange Bank. I named that bank as one which had failed, but everyone in the House knows that the latter part of my remarks related to the Bank of Upper Canada. Last Session, as hon. members will recollect, the Minister of the Interior admitted that the books had been burned, and an admission was also made that others had been injured by sewage. I am sorry that the hon. member thought my remarks applied to the Exchange Bank, when, as a matter of fact, they referred altogether to the Bank of Upper Canada. I regretted the failure of the Exchange Bank, and I know that my hon. friend who has just spoken suffered very deeply from its failure.

HON. MR. OGILVIE—I do not want any sympathy from you.

HON. MR. ALEXANDER.