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same Grand Secretary that the notice was returned to him from the publishing office of the *Gazette*, requesting him to send the usual fee if he wished it inserted. They were bound to assume, therefore, against these Grand Officers promoting the Bill outside of the House, that they knew the notice was not being inserted in the *Ontario Gazette* (cheers), and that they did not intend that it should be inserted; otherwise, on receiving the notice returned to them, they would have sent it back with the money, and had it inserted. He had shown, however, that even if the notice sent by the officers had been inserted, it would not have covered the Bill, which was an entirely different one from that referred to in the notice. The promoters of the Bill had also neglected to comply with the rule requiring the notice to be inserted six weeks in a local paper, because in the only paper in which the notice referred to appeared, the *Orange Sentinel*, it was inserted only four weeks, being two weeks less than the rules of the House required. There was another feature of this case. The promoters of the Bill might say, "We did send a notice, so far as it went, to the *Ontario Gazette*. True, it does not cover this Bill, but it would cover a Bill for the Incorporation of the Grand Lodge of Ontario West." If that were the fact, then there was another rule of this House which required that within two weeks after the insertion of a notice in the *Ontario Gazette*, a copy of the proposed Bill, with \$100, the usual fee, should be sent to the Clerk of the House. Hon. gentlemen could not get away from that fact. It was abundantly certain, then, that the promoters knew that their notice was not being published in the *Gazette*, or else they would have forwarded the Bill and the money to the Clerk. They knew that no notice was being given, they did not intend it should be given, and for that reason they sent neither Bill nor fee.

Mr. MERRICK—The \$100 was placed in the hands of the Clerk of the House.

Mr. FRASER—When?

Mr. MERRICK—It has been here since last year—it has not been withdrawn.

Mr. FRASER—The hon. gentleman must know that that fee, if remaining, went into the Consolidated Revenue Fund. The Clerk of the House would have no authority over that fee, and was not bound to keep the money in his hands.

Mr. CAMERON—It should be refunded by an order of the House.

Mr. FRASER said that clearly, at any rate, the rule had not been complied with, for, apart from the fee, a copy of the Bill should have been sent. Both of these steps were required by the rules of the House. The fact

was, however, that no notice was given, and, what was of more consequence, it was not intended to be given. The various circumstances surrounding the whole matter would justify the House in believing that it was deliberately and purposely not inserted; and if it ever had been the intention of hon. gentlemen to proceed on the notice which appeared in the *Orange Sentinel*, two days after the House met, they abandoned it, for they then took the notice out of that paper. They determined to destroy all excuse for their notices being held regular. The next step necessary for the introduction of a private bill, if proper notice had been published, was to bring it before the Standing Orders Committee; but what was the report of the Standing Orders Committee which was presented to the House?

The promoters of the Bill desired it to be thrown out.

Where there was no ignorance on the part of members of the House as to what the rules of the House were, it was proper to assume that hon. gentlemen would use due diligence, if in earnest, to have their measure carried through all its stages. But these hon. gentlemen went before the Standing Orders Committee and made a mere verbal statement—nothing more—that a notice had been given, and did not even produce to the Committee so much as a copy of the local paper, in which it was alleged the notice had been advertised. Step by step, therefore, they had set every rule of this House at defiance, always hoping that objection would be taken to the irregularity. Wherever they could place an obstacle in their own way, they did so. When they merely went to the Standing Orders Committee with the bald statement that a notice had been inserted in the *Orange Sentinel*, and then asked the Committee to report to the House on the Bill, it surely could not have been honestly expected that the Committee would have recommended a suspension of the rules.

Mr. MERRICK—I would ask what the hon. gentleman is trying to establish. We admit that the proceedings were irregular.

Mr. FRASER said that if the hon. gentleman admitted that he had intentionally violated all the rules of the House, perhaps it would not be necessary for him (Mr. Fraser) to proceed any farther with his argument. But he proposed pointing out what other rules had been violated. The Standing Orders Committee reported the facts as they appeared before them. If the hon. gentleman had earnestly wished the reference to be sent back to the Standing Orders Committee, he would, immediately and without any delay, have placed a notice to that effect on the paper. But he allowed several days to pass